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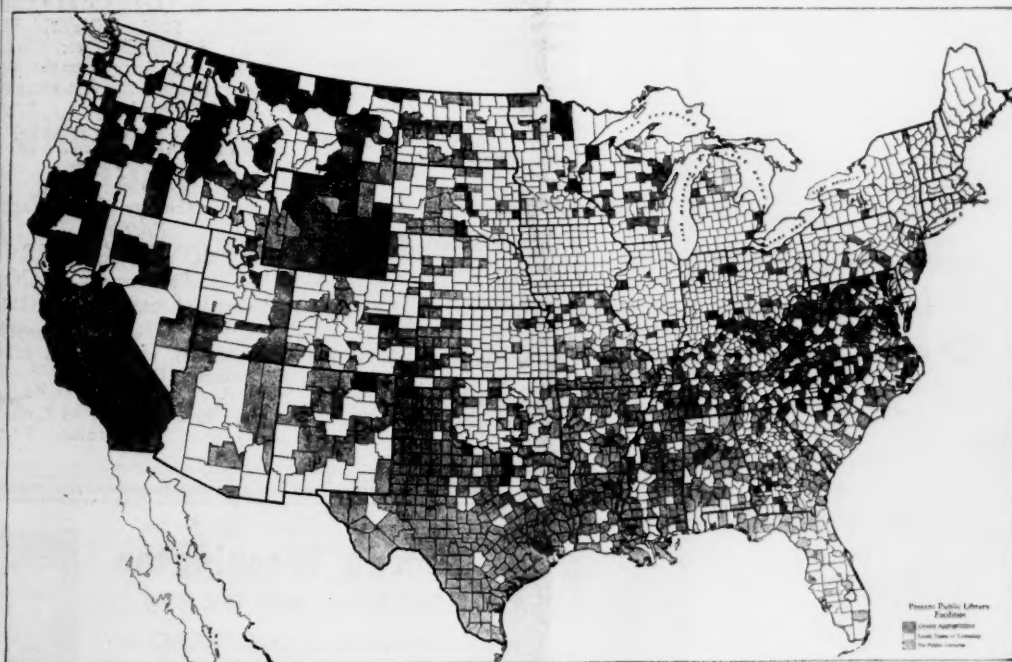
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AT THE CLOSE OF THE FIRST FIFTY YEARS OF THE AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION'S ACTIVITIES FIFTY-SIX PER CENT OF THE POPULATION OF THE UNITED STATES HAS ACCESS TO PUBLIC LIBRARY SERVICE. METHODS FOR PROMOTING FURTHER LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT ARE OUTLINED IN "LIBRARY EXTENSION: A STUDY OF LIBRARY CONDITIONS AND NEEDS," ONE OF THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY PUBLICATIONS OF THE ASSOCIATION, FROM WHICH THIS MAP IS TAKEN.

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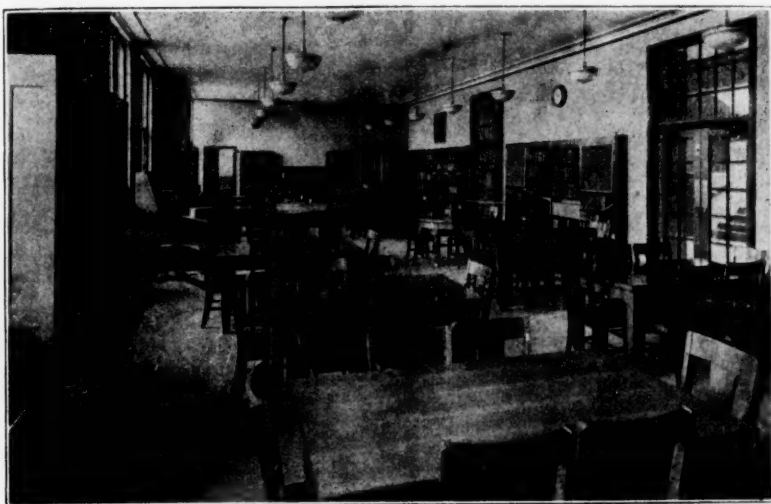
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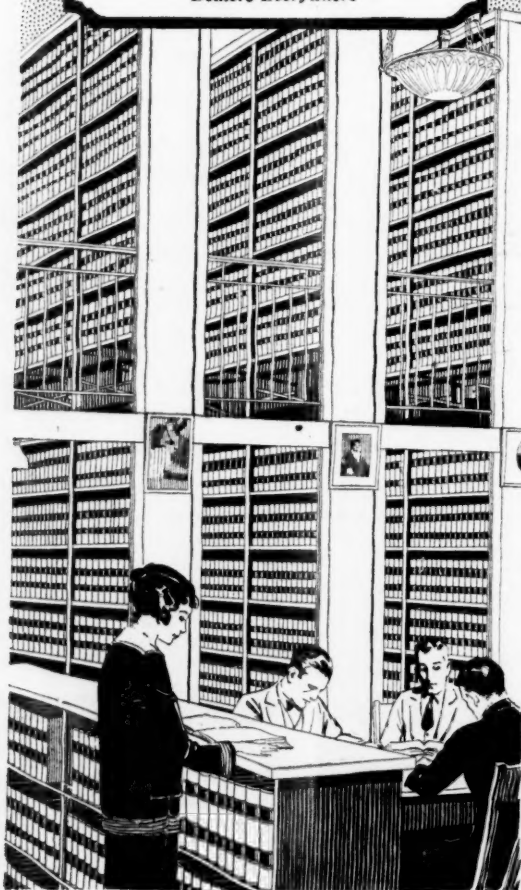
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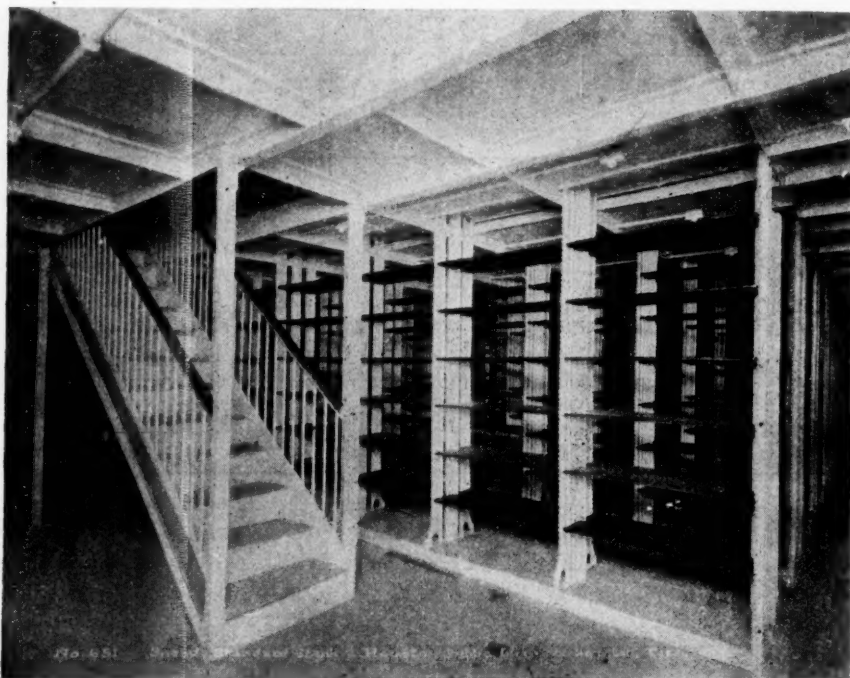
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TWICE-A-MONTH

NOVEMBER 1, 1926

The Future of United States Public Documents

By ALTON P. TISDEL

Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C.

IN treating the subject which has been selected for my paper,* "The Future of United States Public Documents," I may be outlining only my dreams, but I feel sure that some of them, at least, will come true.

A future of unbounded usefulness lies before the Public Documents Division of the Government Printing Office when Congress and the public awaken to a realization of the true value and proper function of Government publications and when they become fully conversant with the possibilities for extension of the service that our office renders to American libraries and the American people. I have grown up with the Documents Office, and, from the beginning, I have been impressed with the part the office could play in the dissemination of information compiled by the various Departments of the Government. I have heard expressions of surprise from hundreds of visitors when they realize the wonderful amount of information contained in Government publications, yet see how little effort, comparatively speaking, is made to acquaint the public with what has been printed.

The progress that our office can make in serving the public will be materially affected by two requirements—first, available room in which to grow; and second, a proper appreciation of the character of the work and the realization that only a trained and experienced personnel can render the most efficient service. As to the first requirement, the success of the Public Printer in having the Government Printing Office included in the building program that has been provided by Congress offers some encouragement, for I know his interest in our work will result in additional room for the Public Documents Division. As to the second, I have reason to believe that the salaries of the personnel will be raised to a higher standard, which will prove an incentive to the employees to remain a sufficient length of time to acquire a knowledge of the

publications and the activities of the Government.

Public documents are no longer mere dry statistical records—their province is the whole field of human knowledge, and they touch human living on every hand; their importance to the general public and to the business interests of the country cannot be fully estimated.

The libraries are active agencies in educating the public concerning not only the broad scope of Government reports but their treasures of scientific, industrial and economic information. The future usefulness of public documents is largely in the hands of the live, up-to-date, progressive librarians.

PUBLICATIONS OF THE FUTURE

We realize that the libraries need bibliographical tools to help them with their document work, and we are eager for the time to come when our cataloging force can be enlarged sufficiently to bring the Document catalogs up to date and keep them so, and also to prepare other compilations that are much needed.

List of Governmental Author Headings. Altho each biennial Document catalog contains a list of the Government authors whose publications appear in that catalog, there is need for a revised edition of the general list issued as a separate pamphlet.

Classification Bulletin. We have had many requests for a bulletin on the classification of public documents used by our office. Such a bulletin should contain the titles of all series listed in the order of their appearances in our shelflist, with an indication of the method by which each class is book-numbered, and an alphabetical index to class headings. We ourselves have long felt the need for such a working tool, and when office conditions permit its compilation we shall be glad to make the information available to librarians.

Checklist. Ever since the third edition of the Checklist of United States public documents was published, we have had in mind a supplement to

* Paper read before the A. L. A. Public Documents Round Table, Atlantic City, N. J., Oct. 7, 1926.

the Checklist and a combined index to the Checklist itself and to its Supplement, but owing to the thousands of publications received since 1909 and the consequent expansion and necessary modification of the classification, many difficulties would arise in an attempt to index at the same time both old and new classifications. The longer Checklist compilation is delayed, the greater will be these difficulties. We have become convinced that the most practical solution will be to abandon the old plan and instead to compile a fourth edition of the Checklist, with a general index to that fourth edition. We believe that in the long run a fourth edition could be compiled as economically and that the results would be far more satisfactory both to ourselves and to libraries.

Early Congress papers. Our dream of the future includes also the publication of a list of the documents classed in the Checklist as 24, Documents of the first fourteen Congresses, 1799-1817 (original prints). For historical and bibliographical reasons the remarkable material now in our possession should be prepared for publication. The list will be a wonderful contribution to the archives of the Government.

Weekly Bulletin. We have not forgotten the plan suggested sometime ago for a weekly bulletin announcing the more important publications. It is not possible at present to undertake its publication along the lines then recommended, but there is a possibility that we may be able to get out a weekly multigraphed list showing the title and issuing office of publications that are thought to be of special interest to libraries and to the general public. Altho such a list would not be as useful as a more elaborate one, it would furnish current information for the bulletin boards in the libraries and would assist in acquainting the public with new publications.

DEPOSITORY LIBRARIES

The depository library system was inaugurated many years ago, and many changes have come with the growth and development during the last fifty years. Many of the depository libraries first designated in the different States have remained such regardless of conditions and of their ability properly to care for the publications received from the Federal Government. We have reason to believe that some are not living up to their obligations.

There has been considerable dissatisfaction expressed recently regarding the law which provides for the allotment of designated depository libraries, and I am convinced there is necessity for Congressional action which will result in a more equitable distribution of these libraries thruout the States. The allotment by Congressional Districts, as now provided for, has its disadvantage where there is more than one important library in a Congressional District, and altho

there may be other districts in the same state with libraries not sufficiently interested or well equipped to accept a designation, the law is not elastic enough to give to the state its quota thru the designation of two libraries in the same district. As further evidence of the defects in the present law, there are numerous libraries pleading for depository privileges altho, at the same time, only 468 designations have been made out of the 667 now possible; this number would have been increased by 40 had Congress passed the Reapportionment Act, providing for 40 additional Congressional Districts because of the 8,000,000 more inhabitants in 1920 than 1910. To cite one instance: A small college town in an eastern State has two depositories within a mile of each other. In the same Congressional district are two much larger cities with three libraries, all of which, I understand, would be glad to be on the list, but under the law this is not possible. I understand that some of the Senators have been approached in regard to a change in the law and that in all probability legislation to remedy this condition will be introduced in the coming session.

Any legislation that has as its object the changing of the present method of designation is of vital importance to the libraries, and this is an opportune time for the American Library Association to consider the question and make such recommendations as it desires.

I believe that the law should be liberalized so that the number of libraries allowed for each State may be in proper ratio to its population. I believe also that the designation of libraries as depositories of Government publications should be made by the Superintendent of Documents on the basis of recommendations from the State library commissions, giving due consideration to the library's location, its clientele, and its ability to function properly as a depository.

THE SELECTIVE PLAN FOR DEPOSITORY LIBRARIES

The selective plan for distributing Government publications to depository libraries was authorized by Congress so as to relieve the libraries of the burden of caring for all publications printed; also to prevent the waste of thousands of publications that the libraries were unable to find shelfroom for and make available to the public.

When a library accepts designation as a depository, it assumes the obligation to render a definite service, and for that reason there should be some minimum requirement as to the number of selections. A library that desires only a few publications is not deserving of the privilege of designation as a depository.

In 1923 a report made at the Hot Springs conference of the A. L. A. by a representative from our office disclosed the fact that twenty-seven states (including territories) would be

without complete collections. This number has since been decreased to twenty-one, but it does seem that at least one library in each state should be provided with a complete set of Government documents.

I am not unappreciative of what it means to handle copies of all the publications printed, and the problem today is much more difficult than twenty years ago, as is illustrated by a comparison of the number of publications included in the depository shipments for April and May 1900, and for April and May 1926.

April 1900, 26 (17 Congressional, and 9 Departmental publications); May 1900, 25 (13 Congressional, and 12 Departmental publications); April 1926, 368 (8 Congressional, and 360 Departmental publications); May 1926, 371 (6 Congressional, and 365 Departmental publications).

In April 1926, Agriculture alone had 36 publications, ten more than the entire shipment for April 1900.

The selective plan has been in operation for more than four years, and sometimes I wonder if the best results are being obtained from our present methods of handling the distribution. When the law was passed it was decided that it would be too expensive and otherwise impractical to arrange for the selection of each publication prior to its being printed. The question to decide now is whether the selection by classes is the best method, or whether it is productive of waste where the library might want only certain publications of a class, whereas now they receive all of a series. The only alternative plan would be to circularize these libraries not receiving all publications, possibly once a week, so that they might select by titles the ones actually wanted for the library. I can see some objections to this plan: It upsets completely the immediate delivery scheme, which I know is valued by the libraries, and it opens up possibilities for numerous requests at a later date from libraries wanting various issues to complete sets—requests that perhaps could not be filled.

Feeling that the selective plan meets a long-felt need, I am positive it has come to stay, but I should be delighted to get from the libraries suggestions as to any possible changes in order to make sure that the most practical and efficient plan is followed, so that the annual appropriation of \$85,000 will render the service intended by Congress.

ONE EDITION OF ONE BOOK

It is to be hoped that Congress may be persuaded to amend the existing law so as to discontinue printing Departmental publications as Senate and House documents. There is no need for this duplication, and no good reason can be advanced for including in the Congressional set eighteen series of Departmental publications

when many other series are omitted. The Geological Survey Bulletins and the Hygienic Laboratory Bulletins are numbered in the House Document Series, because they were so specified in the printing law of 1895, but that fact does not make them more valuable to a Member of Congress than the Trade Promotion Series of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce or numerous other series that I might mention. In the past, objections were always made to taking the annual reports of the Executive Departments out of the Congressional set, but now that most of the departments have taken advantage of the law which makes it discretionary whether or not they print their consolidated reports, the annual reports have been automatically dropped from the series and, as far as I know, without any objections being registered.

The series of numbered Congressional documents and reports should be limited to publications originating in Congress and ordered printed by Congress. Then departmental publications will be issued only in the plain title edition; extra copies that may be required for the use of Congress or others should be identical in every particular with those provided for the issuing office. Likewise, when a department needs additional copies of publications which have been ordered by Congress, such copies should be identical with those of the Congressional document or report edition.

ELIMINATION OF WASTE

The Director of the Budget, at the last meeting of the Business Organizations of the Government, said, "We are spending too much of the tax-payer's money in helping to fill the wastebaskets of the nation." This is not a new discovery, but a subject upon which volumes have been written. When one considers that millions of publications are destroyed annually, it must be realized that something is wrong with the present methods.

The American people have been kept better informed as to the activities of their Government than are the people of any other nation of the world. This has been done thru the free distribution of public documents, but the distribution has been made at enormous expense and has been accompanied by tremendous waste. The remedy lies in the reduction of free distribution, the adoption of a sales policy, and the centering of the control of distribution under one office. As the Public Printer, Mr. George H. Carter, stated, "Now that the public has been so well advised as to the Governmental affairs, we believe that they should join in the necessary reduction of Government expenditures by paying for such publications as may be of benefit or interest, thereby placing the public printing upon a substantial business basis." The departments will never be willing entirely to relinquish control

of the distribution of their publications, but they should make a careful study in advance of printing to determine the number of copies of each publication required for limited free distribution.

The Budget Officer has recommended in his Circular 75 that Departments print for free distribution only sufficient copies for their regular mailing lists, which should usually be limited to the following:

(1) Collaborators and co-operators with the Departments in their investigations; (2) organizations exchanging like courtesies; (3) libraries; (4) educational and scientific institutions; (5) officials of the Government; (6) the press.

Other persons desiring publications should purchase them from the Superintendent of Documents, who is authorized to print additional copies and to sell them at a price sufficient to cover the cost of printing and binding. Thousands of publications are priced at five cents each, and in all cases the price is only a nominal amount.

The Department of Commerce has adopted the recommendation of the Bureau of the Budget and is enthusiastic over the results. The officials of the Department realize that the nominal price charged does not impose a burden on anyone who is really interested in the information made available thru their publications; moreover, the value of a publication may be determined to a large extent from the general demand.

A further advantage of the sales policy is that there is no limit to the number of copies that the Superintendent of Documents may print, the only requirement being a continued demand; on the contrary, the number of copies that a Department can print is naturally limited by available appropriations, and it is reasonable to suppose that preference will usually be given to printing new material rather than to reprinting old material, the result being that many valuable publications are soon out of print. Under the present arrangement, by which the Departments engage in free distribution of publications that are also sold by this office, it is extremely difficult to estimate the number of copies that should be printed for sale, with the result that we are inclined to be too conservative; if a publication becomes unexpectedly popular, the Department soon finds itself without copies, and the small sales edition is soon exhausted. Reprinting requires time, and the public often shows its displeasure at not being able to obtain the publication promptly. If all publications, with a few possible exceptions, are on a sales basis, the confusion that now exists in the minds of the public as to where to apply for publications will be removed, and the supply can be made adequate to the demand.

Tho advocating a general sales policy, the Documents Office has no desire to make libraries pay. Our slogan is "Free to libraries—others pay."

PUBLICITY

During the past year there were sold 10,962,571 copies of Governmental publications, for which \$544,937.51 was received. There is no doubt that with proper advertising the sales would have amounted to more than a million dollars. The Government does not properly market its product. Altho many millions are expended in the collection of information and the printing of publications, no funds are available for advertising.

Depending on free publicity is poor business, as is proved by the millions of publications remaining in stock. The issuing offices should be provided with funds for proper advertising, and up-to-date methods should be employed to inform the people and the business concerns of the country as to what the Government is doing in their interest.

ECONOMY THRU WISE EXPENDITURE

After every possible effort is made to avoid waste, attention should be given the problem of spending money to save money. In advocating the substitution of a sales policy for a general free distribution it is not intended to convey the idea that the printing appropriations for the departments should be reduced.

Millions of dollars are spent by the Government in profitable research. To yield the greatest returns, the reports embodying the results of the research should be published promptly, and the public should be promptly and fully informed. This requires adequate funds for printing and for making the publications known.

The Documents Office stands ready to do all in its power to co-operate with libraries in this work; with a moderate increase in money and personnel we could do far more. We invite suggestions as to improvements in methods, and we ask your continued aid in educating the public concerning the best use of public documents and the necessity for adequate appropriations in order to make them most widely available.

Periodicals of International Importance

"Periodicals of International Importance" is an annotated selection of six hundred periodicals recommended by librarians in various countries as "useful from an international standpoint to libraries everywhere." The compilation made by Edith M. Phelps and Eleanor E. Ball is published by the H. W. Wilson Company (28p. 35c.) and indication given regarding the titles indexed in the various "Wilson Indexes."

Library Legislation in 1925

By WILLIAM F. YUST

Librarian of the Rochester (N. Y.) Public Library and Chairman of the A. L. A. Committee on Legislation

FOR a number of years a form letter has been sent to library commissions, state libraries and other state agencies. This letter requests material of the following kinds: (1) Copy of any library law actually passed; (2) law which failed, copy of bill and cause of failure; (3) needed legislation, is it contemplated or not; (4) incidents in the preparation, promotion and passage of a law; (5) appropriations, giving exact amounts and noting increases or decreases; (6) suggestions for the A. L. A. Committee on Legislation. Except in a very few cases, replies came with gratifying promptness and fullness.

Under heading Number 6 one commission writes: "The A. L. A. Committee on Legislation could greatly aid the states working for county library laws by issuing statistics and other information on the present county library situation in the U. S." Another state says "— (State) is peculiar in that it does not enjoy interference in the passage of laws from an outside party or parties."

This review covers a year when most of the states had legislative sessions. Library legislation in 1925 was not so extensive as it was two years ago. But it was of marked significance, as will be seen under the headings Library Support, County Libraries and State Libraries.

ORGANIZATION AND ESTABLISHMENT

In Michigan the board of education of a school district may donate or sell its library books to a township board where there is a township library or to a city library in a city; such boards are authorized to contract with any community outside of their territorial jurisdiction for the use of said library whenever it is to the best interests of the library and the public.

A Nevada act states that trustees of school districts on petition shall appoint three library trustees and thereafter one each year for a term of three years. This is an amendment to an act of 1895, which was not available for examination.

In Ohio township trustees are authorized to transfer library property to the library board of a school district or of a county library district. State Librarian Hirshberg writes: "Of 204 public libraries in Ohio only eight are township libraries. The public libraries are gradually adopting one of two or three forms of legal organization of the dozen forms permitted by law. This amendment permits town-

ship libraries to change to the school district or county district forms. It is permissive and not mandatory and the change can only be made when local authorities want it."

BONDS AND MORTGAGES

California provided for submitting to the voters in November, 1926, an eight and one-half million dollar bond issue for various state buildings, including the completion and equipment of the new state library building.

Nebraska enlarged the power of public library boards by authorizing them on payment to release a mortgage constituting a credit to the library fund or to renew the mortgage.

In New Jersey municipalities in making their annual debt statement may deduct therefrom certain items. An amendment this year adds to such deductible items any indebtedness incurred for erecting and equipping a library building, provided such indebtedness does not exceed one hundred thousand dollars.

LIBRARY SUPPORT

An Illinois law permits cities of over 100,000 population to levy annually one mill (formerly eight-tenths) on the dollar for library maintenance and an additional two-tenths mill for the purchase of sites and buildings and for construction and equipment. This law applies only to Chicago, as it is the only city in the state with the necessary population. As a result Chicago's annual library revenue is increased \$600,000 and her per capita expenditure raised from 45 cents to 70 cents. Half of the increased income is to be spent on maintenance and the other half on buildings, for which a comprehensive program has been prepared.

Maine has hitherto had a law that towns in establishing libraries might "appropriate for the foundation and commencement of such library a sum not exceeding ten dollars and for its maintenance and increase annually a sum not exceeding two dollars for its ratable polls in the year next proceeding." An amendment removes the limitation thus fixed for the amount that may be appropriated for establishment and maintenance by towns and villages. Similar limitations have been removed from the amount which towns may jointly or individually appropriate to secure library service from adjacent towns or from free libraries controlled by associations.

A Michigan law permits townships, cities or

villages having a library controlled by an association open to the public on payment of dues to appropriate not over one-half mill for its support. The library must be open not less than three afternoons and three evenings each week and be free to the public. This is considered by some "an undesirable act because it makes it possible for libraries of that type to exist."

In Michigan a joint resolution failed again which aimed to amend the constitution by striking out the clause which provides that penal fines in counties, cities and townships shall be applied to the support of libraries. The state association's committee on legislation is kept busy defeating the biennial efforts of the legislature to repeal this clause. Many librarians in the state would favor eliminating the clause, if the state would by a law of some other kind recognize its responsibility for library support.

The special law for Cincinnati and Hamilton County, Ohio, provides that the budget submitted by the library board may be subject to reduction by the county budget commission. An amendment this year prevents such reduction below four-tenths of a mill but does not increase the present maximum of five-tenths of a mill. "As the levy for the Cincinnati Public Library for 1925 is .27 mills, the new law will bring about an increase of nearly 50% in the levy for 1926."

COUNTY LIBRARIES

In California the following increases in salary of county librarians were made by act of the legislature: Tuolumne County increased from \$1500 to \$1800; Imperial from \$1600 to \$1800; Ventura from \$1800 to \$2100; Madera from \$2100 to \$2400; San Diego from \$2000 to \$2700; San Mateo from \$2100 to \$2400.

In Georgia a general county library law failed. But a law was passed authorizing certain counties to appropriate not over \$600 per annum for the support of a public library in the county to which the people of the county have access. The law applies to all counties with a population not less than 24,530 nor more than 24,550. There is, of course, only one such county in the state (Brooks County). Anticipating the passage of a general county library law the public library at Quitman had completed arrangements with the county to receive \$600 a year for service to the county. When the general law failed this special law was rushed thru at the last minute by the representative from Brooks County. So Georgia will have at least one legal county library.

Illinois made unsuccessful efforts to amend the county library law. One of the proposed bills aimed to prevent double taxation and thus encourage the establishment of county libraries. It amended the existing county act by authorizing the county treasurer in a county voting to

establish a county library to pay back to the municipality having a library the money contributed by it to the county library fund. The other was a companion bill amending the city act. It provided that the library tax of a municipality in a county which had voted to establish a county library should not exceed the difference between the maximum tax allowed and that which would be returned to it by the county treasurer. "These bills failed because there was no organized support by librarians and library trustees." (*Illinois Libraries*, 7:71-72 and 89-92; *LIBRARY JOURNAL*, 50:545).

In Nevada county commissioners are authorized to set apart \$1500 for the establishment and maintenance of a public library and the same amount annually. On notice from the county commissioners the county board of education shall appoint three library trustees, terms three years.

In Ohio after the creation of a county library district any subdivision of a county maintaining a public library may become a part of a county library district; subdivisions of counties without library service may join the county service by resolution of the governing body. On petition of 50 electors the question may be submitted to voters at a general election. The state librarian says: "The amendment is designed to meet an existing situation in Cuyahoga County as recommended by the attorney general. The township of Brecksville has been omitted from the county library district and no legal way can be found to permit it to become a part of the district. This amendment provides the means and will meet future situations which may arise."

Another Ohio provision enables a county library district to contract with one or more libraries in the county or in a contiguous county for the use of such libraries by the county library district. County library districts may contract with school districts within their territory to provide school library service. The state librarian explains that "in a rural county having no large public library it may be more economical for the county district library board to contract with a large library in an adjoining county for service instead of setting up independent service. The amendment merely permits this new form of contract. This would make it possible to extend the service of a well developed library system like Cleveland, Toledo or Youngstown into a neighboring county."

In New Mexico school district boards and county boards of education may include in their estimate for schools a request for an allowance for support of free public library service available to residents of the county. School budget commissioners are authorized to comply with such requests upon presentation of satisfactory evidence of the desirability and need of such allowance.

Pennsylvania gives counties power thru condemnation proceedings to acquire property for the purpose of erecting thereon public library buildings. Cities and counties may jointly take such action by entering into contracts.

STATE LIBRARIES

Florida passed an act creating a state library board of three members to be appointed by the governor for a term of four years. The librarian is to be appointed by the board at such compensation as shall seem adequate. The librarian must be trained in modern library methods and serve as secretary of the board, have charge of organizing and conducting the state library, also organizing new libraries and improving those already established.

The board may give assistance, advice and counsel to school, state institutions, free public libraries and to all communities proposing to establish libraries; it may conduct courses of library instruction and hold institutes; distribute state documents and make annual report. Appropriation for two years \$12,000.

The bill was sponsored by the state library association. The original bill was for a library commission only and included provision for traveling libraries, which had to be dropped on account of opposition. Editorial comments on this law and its significance appeared in *LIBRARY JOURNAL*, 50:605-6 and *Public Libraries*, 30:377.

The Idaho state library fund consists of money paid by attorney upon admission to practice and other moneys and fees and the annual sum of \$150 appropriated annually. The clause calling for \$150 appropriation has been repealed.

Indiana passed "a most constructive piece of library legislation making possible an enlarged program of usefulness." It creates the Indiana Library and Historical Department under control of the Indiana Library and Historical Board of five members appointed by the governor for a term of four years; one to be recommended by the state board of education; one by the Indiana Library Trustees Association; one by the Indiana Library Association; one by the Indiana Historical Society and one by the governor.

It provides for three divisions: (1) the library, which includes the former state library and the public library commission; (2) the historical bureau, which is the former historical commission; (3) the legislative bureau, the former legislative reference bureau. The powers and duties of each division are detailed. Each is to be in charge of a director, appointed by the board, who shall be a college graduate of recognized standing and special training. Assistants in each division shall be appointed by the director with the approval and consent of the board. Salaries of directors are to be fixed by the

board, those of assistants by the directors with the approval of the board.

The *Library Occurrent* of July 1925, page 184, says: "This department is thus co-ordinated with the department of public instruction, the department of conservation and other departments of the state. Much interest is shown in the new organization throughout the state and by those in other states who are interested in state-wide library service. This organization is considered ideal because the library activities of the state are thus brought together in one department co-ordinating with the other state departments with the possibility of co-operating with any other department. (See editorial in *LIBRARY JOURNAL*, 50:305; letter by William Hamilton, idem, 50:412; editorial *Public Libraries*, 30:240-41, 273).

In Massachusetts all accounts for the maintenance of the state library shall be approved by the trustees thereof or by such person as may be designated for the purpose in a vote of said trustees, who shall nevertheless remain responsible for such approval. There has evidently been difficulty in getting the requisite number of trustees at monthly meetings to approve bills.

In Missouri a bill was introduced but not passed creating a state library to take over and continue the work of the Missouri library commission; also with a legislative reference department; librarian to be appointed by governor, additional employees by the librarian. "It was never reported out of committee, probably because no one was particularly interested in pushing it."

In Nevada a law of 1865 was amended in regard to the fund for maintenance of the state library. The sixty-year-old law was not available for examination.

A Rhode Island law increases the maximum appropriation that may be made for various divisions of the state library. Another act increases the salary of the state librarian from \$3000 to \$3500.

In Vermont the commissioner of education is to serve as *ex-officio* trustee of the state library instead of the secretary of state. This change came as a result of an investigation of the state library and a public hearing conducted by a committee of citizens. There is considerable sentiment in favor of restoring the former library commission, which was abolished in 1923 and its functions vested in the state department of education.

OTHER STATE AGENCIES

In Arkansas the effort to secure a \$1000 appropriation for traveling libraries failed on account of the governor's economy program, but the \$2000 annually for the free library service bureau was allowed.

In Colorado a bill which failed aimed to con-

solidate the state library, the traveling library commission and the public library commission into one commission, which was to have general charge and decide upon the general library policy of the state and to "develop an efficient, economical and up-to-date library service for the state." It was opposed by the superintendent of public instruction, the state library, the traveling library commission and the state historical society. As a result of this opposition all the agencies mentioned lost their appropriation, because the appropriations were included in the bill.

North Dakota repealed a clause which had evidently become a dead letter appropriating annually \$7800 for the state library commission.

Rhode Island raised the annual appropriation for aid to public libraries from \$3000 to \$11000 and fixed the sum to be used in aid of salaries of public librarians at \$3000 (previously such a sum as the assembly "may deem sufficient and advisable.")

CERTIFICATION AND STANDARDIZATION

The legislative committee of the Indiana Library Association has prepared a draft of a certification law which the association voted to make the basis of a bill to be presented to the next legislature. (LIBRARY JOURNAL. 50:1010.)

In Minnesota the state superintendent of education may issue a certificate to a college or normal school graduate or to one otherwise qualified who has completed such study and training as the superintendent may require authorizing the holder to act as school librarian. This law "has established a higher standard of service in school libraries and is therefore probably the most important achievement of the year over all the events which have as yet been reported." (LIBRARY JOURNAL. 51:91.)

In New York State the regents have adopted a rule which has the effect of law requiring all schools with an enrollment of 100 pupils or more to have a school library in charge of a certified librarian; after September 1, 1926, schools with an enrollment over 50 shall have a certified librarian. The rules may be modified where adequate school library service is provided by the public library. The certification of public librarians continues to be voluntary on the part of librarians.

In Oklahoma the library commission shall constitute a board of library examiners who shall issue librarians certificates under reasonable rules and regulations to be promulgated by the board. Temporary certificates for one year may be issued where no qualified librarian is available. All librarians now in service are to receive life certificates without examination. The board has adopted rules for issuing first, second and third grade certificates, teacher-librarian

and one year temporary certificates. (*Public Libraries*. 30:377.)

SALE OF BOOKS

The Wisconsin law stating conditions under which school textbooks may be sold or exchanged was amended to include encyclopedias or other reference books sold in sets or in series. It provides that the books shall be filed in the office of the superintendent of public instruction, that they shall be sold at a uniform price as low as can be obtained anywhere, that the quality shall be maintained and that there shall be no combination to control price or restrict competition. Penalties are provided.

MISCELLANEOUS

In Iowa the board of trustees "shall immediately after the close of each municipal fiscal year" make general report to council on the library's work during the year.

Nebraska's law against mutilating library property covered only newspapers and periodicals. An amendment adds books to the items mentioned. Penalty \$10 to \$100 or 30 days in jail.

North Carolina made her law for the protection of public libraries more specific. "Whoever wilfully or maliciously fails to return" library property kept overtime "for 15 days after mailing or delivering in person of notice in writing" shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and fined \$50 or imprisoned 30 days. Formerly "punished in the discretion of the court." (LIBRARY JOURNAL. 50:545.)

In Michigan certified copies and photostat copies of records, books and papers of libraries when sworn to and made under supervision of library authorities shall be admissible as evidence in court the same as an original would be. Fees may be charged for making such copies.

In New York state three bills which appear annually failed again: (1) One repealing the law which gives the regents power to fix standards of library service; (2) one requiring library employees to be citizens; (3) the "Clean Books" bill.

COURT DECISION

Owensboro, Kentucky, established a library in conformity with a state law passed in 1902. It received a \$30,000 library building from Andrew Carnegie in accordance with his usual conditions, the city providing a site and agreeing to appropriate \$3000 annually for maintenance. In 1920 the state passed an amendment to the library law, providing "In aid the establishment and maintenance of such library there is hereby appropriated for its use and benefit one-half of the net amount of all forfeitures, fines and costs collected in the police court of such city or town." But the city never paid the library any part of such collections.

In 1924 the library board filed action in the Circuit Court. The court sustained the action and entered a judgment for the library board against the city for \$12,836.53, which was one-half of the net amount actually collected by the city during the period specified. The case was appealed to the Court of Appeals of Kentucky.

Counsel for the city argued that the act of 1920 did not apply to libraries already in existence, that it was unconstitutional, that it is beyond the power of the general assembly to appropriate money covered into the treasury of a city which has come from the operation of one of its departments of government, that the amounts sought to be recovered were not net because they were expended in the proper conduct of the police court, that under the contrac-

tual relations between the city and Andrew Carnegie the city was bound to expend only \$3000 a year on the maintenance of the library, that the library board was estopped from asserting any claims because it did not annually submit to the common council a statement of the library's needs as stipulated in the law but accepted the \$3000 regularly, and finally that against the judgment in this proceeding there might be set off amounts which the city has collected for library purposes since 1920. The final opinion is in favor of the library. The last sentence in the opinion of the court of appeals reads, "We have no doubt of the correctness of the opinion of the lower court, and the same is affirmed."

The Owensboro library has previously had to

APPROPRIATIONS

1 STATE	2 Years covered	3 State Library	4 Library Commission	5 State Law Library	6 Legislative Ref. Bureau	7 Hist. Library
Arizona	2			\$25,980		
Arkansas	2	None	\$4,000	None		\$12,600
California	2	\$253,490				
Colorado		None	None			
Connecticut	2	268,100		In col. 3	In col. 3	
Delaware	2		12,000	14,120		1,600
Florida	2	12,000				
Georgia	2	24,000	16,000	In col. 3	In col. 3	12,000
Hawaii Ter.	2	169,680				
Idaho	2		11,253	14,065		7,626
Illinois	2	136,730	In col. 3		\$84,315	59,000
Indiana	2	144,700	In col. 3		27,985	30,300
Iowa	2	43,400	46,700	31,600		Note
Kansas	2	40,800	17,600		In col. 3	43,000
Louisiana	2	16,040	Note			
Maine	2	97,545				
Massachusetts	1	52,900	24,200			
Michigan	2	156,000				54,000
Minnesota	2		42,000	41,600		
Missouri	2	In col. 5	24,500	7,300		43,520
Montana						
Nebraska	2	38,800	29,400		21,500	20,000
Nevada	2	22,800	None	12,400	None	13,000
New Hampshire	2	40,300	10,050			1,000
New Jersey	1	20,610	65,000			7,750
New Mexico	2			8,000		
New York	1	214,980	83,808	In col. 3	In col. 3	
North Carolina	2	30,000	50,000	5,700	In col. 7	56,000
North Dakota	2	In col. 5	20,840	15,800		21,350
Ohio	2	170,240	In col. 3	65,140	In col. 3	
Oklahoma	2	19,430	45,050			24,000
Oregon	2	75,000	In col. 3	20,000		30,000
Pennsylvania	2	180,000	In col. 3	In col. 3	75,000	20,000
Rhode Island	1	8,000	17,000	8,500	6,270	2,500
South Carolina	1	4,575		1,890		7,623
South Dakota	2	In col. 7	22,370		In col. 7	22,760
Tennessee	2	Note				
Texas	2	55,444	In col. 3	9,000	In col. 3	
Utah						
Vermont	2		20,000			
Washington	1	6,500	13,000	12,250	None	7,500
West Virginia	2	In col. 7	None	15,800	None	24,600
Wisconsin	2	35,660	173,000	In col. 3	In col. 3	167,800
Wyoming	2	16,700				10,200

deal with difficult city officials. When the Carnegie building was completed three successive councils refused to make the necessary appropriation in accordance with earlier ordinances adopted when the Carnegie agreement was made. When the fourth council approved the appropriation over the mayor's veto he refused to sign the warrant. The library trustees brought suit to compel him to sign. They won first in the lower court and then in the court of appeals. The warrants were signed in 1913.

NOTES ON APPROPRIATIONS

California. Amount given covers all state library activities. An increase of \$50,280 but still \$52,410 less than four years ago.

Colorado. No library appropriations of any kind made. See paragraph under "State agencies."

Connecticut. State library includes \$13,000 for legislative reference, \$29,100 for records, revolutionary records, war records, land records and probate records, and \$112,000 for buildings and grounds of the state library and supreme court.

Delaware. For state library commission almost doubled, from \$6,400, but four years ago it was \$10,400. Public archives commission \$7000; state federation of women's clubs \$200 for books for state library commission; Dover library \$500, Corbit library \$100, and Rehoboth Beach Free Library \$75.

Georgia. State library commission \$6000 for 1925, \$10,000 for 1926.

Hawaii Territory. Amount given includes \$34,000 for acquisition of property. In addition Hilo Free Library \$54,500; Kauai Public Library Association \$30,500; Maui County Free Library \$38,080; Commission of Public Archives \$20,700.

Illinois. State library includes archive division and \$54,720 for library extension division.

Iowa. State historical department \$94,850; state historical society \$72,850; medical library \$13,600; economics and sociology \$7,400.

Louisiana. The state library commission created by act of 1920 has an appropriation of \$50,000 for three years from the Carnegie Corporation.

Maine. \$47,700 first year, second year \$49,845.

Michigan. State library annual increase of \$23,280.

Minnesota. Also \$60,000 aid for school libraries, which is a decrease of \$20,000.

New Jersey. Public library commission increase of \$10,000.

New York. Column 4 is for Library Extension Division and includes \$50,000 for annual state grants to local libraries.

North Carolina. Commission has decrease of

\$5000. There is also \$7500 for rural school libraries.

North Dakota. Commission increase \$1700, law library increase \$5300.

Ohio. State library increase \$13,400. Column 7 is for state historical society and includes museum and library support. In addition the society is given \$17,400 for historic reservations under its control.

Pennsylvania. State library proper \$46,317, Library Extension Division \$31,172, law library \$12,200, museum \$25,417, archives \$20,092, administration \$44,802, Total \$180,000.

Rhode Island. Legislative reference is under state library. Column 7 is divided between two societies, one at Providence and one at Newport.

South Dakota. Column 7 is for department of history, which includes state library and legislative reference. Amount given includes \$5000 for state census.

South Carolina. Also \$5000 for school libraries.

Tennessee. Rural librarian and stenographer \$2400, traveling library and library extension \$20,000, division of library history and archives \$23,520, librarian and archivist under board of education \$20,800.

Utah. No report on appropriations.

Washington. Appropriations usually for two years but this was a special session.

West Virginia. Department of archives and history is the state library.

An Appreciation

At an informal meeting of head catalogers in 1925 at the time of the Seattle conference, the suggestion was made that the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the A.L.A. would be a fitting time to recognize the twenty-fifth anniversary of the printed card distribution of the Library of Congress, and it was voted that the new chairman should appoint a committee to prepare a resolution. William W. Bishop was appointed chairman and asked Miss Hyde and Sophie K. Hiss to serve with him. A testimonial of appreciation to Dr. Putnam, Mr. Hanson, Mr. Martel and Mr. Hastings was prepared, and was read by Mr. Bishop at the Atlantic City A. L. A. meeting. Mr. Hanson was the only one present at the session, of the four men honored, but he responded with a few words of thanks. Copies of the testimonial were printed for distribution among those present.

CORRECTION

In locking up the forms for the October 1 LIBRARY JOURNAL a line was accidentally dropped from the bottom of page 838, first column. The missing line reads:
thinkers. The books they want are the ones that

Tentative Personnel Standards for Small Libraries

By HERBERT S. HIRSHBERG

Librarian, Ohio State Library.

THE topic assigned to me* presupposes lower or at least different standards for librarians of small libraries than for librarians of medium-sized or large libraries. Perhaps such standards should be different. At the very beginning I shall venture to say that they should not. I am taking it for granted that we are talking about legal standards, standards to be imposed by law or by authority of law of the various states. That hypothesis in turn takes for granted the acceptance of the desirability of state standards for public librarians either thru certification or some similar method. Certification for public librarians has not yet been generally accepted. Limited certification is in force in only a very few states. But after five years of state work with more or less well-meaning local public library boards I am convinced that we shall never be able to build up an evenly balanced library service until compulsory certification is universally adopted. This is not my subject, however, but what I shall have to say must be predicated upon the acceptance of the principle that the state must provide and enforce standards for librarians as it has for other professionals.

In considering possibilities for standards for librarians we of course immediately compare our own profession with others. Legal standards are set up in almost every state in the union not only for doctors and dentists and lawyers but for many other groups. In Ohio licenses to practice based upon satisfactory proof of competency are required of accountants, attorneys-at-law, dentists, dental hygienists, embalmers, engineers (stationary), limited medical practitioners such as chiropractors, midwives, nurses, optometrists, osteopaths, pharmacists, physicians and surgeons, real estate brokers and salesmen and teachers. As far as I have been able to discover there has been no principle adopted in the licensing or certifying of any of these groups which indicates that a lower standard is required for the doctor who prescribes for the patient in the small town or open country, for the pharmacist who compounds prescriptions in the small town drug store, for the teacher who dispenses knowledge in the small town high school, for the dentist who pulls the small-town teeth, than for their professional

brethren who serve the public in larger places. It is true that one expects to find a higher degree of expertness in the larger place, but it is not true that the educational standards for admission to practice to any of these professions are lower for the individuals who apply for a license or certificate to practice and who plan to practice in the smaller place.

Why then do we talk about standards for librarians of small libraries? Is it not as essential, if library opportunity is to be equalized as is other educational opportunity regardless of size or place of residence, that librarians also be equalized? We have been told over and over again, and almost as often as we have been told that the public library is an integral part of the educational system, that public library service is made up of seventy-five per cent librarian and twenty-five per cent books and building. Surely the best and easiest way to equalize service is to equalize librarians.

Perhaps this point in itself is debatable, but I firmly believe that the librarian of the small library who heads a staff of two, three or four needs to know more of the many angles of technical work and more of the resources and use of books at her command than the chief of a larger staff many of whom are themselves experts in their special lines. I concede, of course, on the other hand that many a successful librarian of a small library who does most or much of the work herself might not succeed where she has to direct the work of many others, but here we begin to talk of administrative ability and not of general education and technical training.

Admit then that we need a well equipped librarian in a small library as well as in a large. What should be her qualifications? We have become accustomed to tell each other and others that the public librarian should rank with the superintendent of schools or at least with the high school principal. I am not aware that there are higher standards imposed for high school principals than for the teachers under them, but my inquiries have discovered the fact that in eighty per cent of the states professional training is required for high school teachers, and that in seventy-one per cent of the states the teachers must have an A.B. degree. Furthermore, these requirements are rapidly advancing. (*South Carolina Education* 6: 14, May 1, 1925.) Should we then accept a lower standard for the

* Paper read before the A. L. A. Small Libraries Round Table, Atlantic City, N. J., Oct. 5, 1926.

librarian who serves her, her pupils and the whole public of her community?

In speaking of standards for teachers before the N.E.A. in 1872 a superintendent said: "It is certain that while some scholars may fail when submitted to the test of the school room, no ignorant person can possibly make a good teacher under any circumstances . . . There is a grade of scholarship below which no man or woman is fitted to make a trial of teaching. Above this standard some will succeed and some will fail." Apply these remarks to librarianship in 1926. They stand without argument, do they not?

The Committee on the Classification of Library Personnel just reporting to the A.L.A. says in its summary that "in many of the smaller libraries and particularly in the public libraries where only one, two or three persons are employed, the library workers as a rule do not have the education, library training, library experience and other qualifications essential to the effective performance of the duties of their positions." I have not the figures for the country at large to support this statement if it needs support, for to me it is self-evident, but I do have the figures for Ohio. Of 180 librarians of tax supported libraries in Ohio but thirty-five have had full college training, and twenty-one have had a one-year library school course.

It is indisputable that the finding of the Personnel Classification Committee is accurate and just, and that a large proportion of the librarians of the small libraries of the country are insufficiently prepared for their work. Small library personnel has been built up in the past and is at present being built up chiefly of home talent. The analogy to teaching still holds. As Cubberly says, "The bright and attractive graduate of the last class in the local high school; the daughter of the estimable citizen; the young lady who needed to help her widowed mother were the natural persons selected to share the public bounty and to teach the children of the community . . . The number of home teachers in school systems is rather surprising. School systems in cities of 25,000 and over, whose elementary schools do not contain approximately seventy-five per cent of home teachers are the exception. The percentage is less in the high schools, ranging between forty and fifty-five per cent."* The overdoing of the use of home talent where there are no personnel standards as in the library service is even more flagrant. It is, of course, partly because of poor financing and the inability to pay adequate salaries that home people are hired. Poor support is in itself due to undeveloped public opinion and tolerance of inferior service which goes back

in the usual vicious circle to the librarian.

In this group representing small libraries, there are three sub-groups including libraries up to a circulation of 150,000 volumes annually, or serving up to 25,000 or 30,000 population on the basis of five or six volumes circulation per capita. Libraries in the smallest group having a circulation up to 20,000 or serving a population of less than 3,500 are almost too small for independent efficient service, and under ideal conditions should be parts of larger library units, that is, county libraries with a qualified fully trained librarian in general charge. To libraries in towns of 3,500 or over I should then limit this discussion, and I repeat my opinion that college graduation should become the minimum fundamental requirement with technical library training added to or included in the college training. I also reiterate my opinion that a one-year library school course or its equivalent is the minimum professional training desirable.

Now how are we to obtain the necessary recruits and how train those recruited? First, let us begin to think in higher terms of the necessary, fundamental material. Librarianship has been discredited if thought of at all as a possible vocation by the low standards of service to be found in many a small library. Small-town young people accustomed to the public library as a source of supply for tattered fiction or for copying an article from an ancient encyclopedia for school use have had no vital, living example of the work of a librarian and naturally have not turned to the possibility of library work. The lack of library schools and the distance from home of those that have existed have deterred those who might have glanced toward library work as a profession. There has, up to this time, been no concerted effort to change the public mind about librarianship as a pleasant job for a lady who likes books.

Our press is full of items indicating the tremendous increase in college registration. There is surely no dearth of human material. In the thirty-four years from 1890 to 1924 registration in 913 colleges, universities and professional schools increased nearly six times as rapidly as population. The number of students increased from 121,942 in 1890 to 664,266 in 1924, a growth of 445 per cent. The present annual rate of increase in the number of students enrolled in our colleges is 6.5 per cent. Is it unreasonable to demand that with the proportion of college-trained people so greatly increasing the standards for librarianship should be placed on a scale high enough to enroll as heads at least of our small libraries, only college graduates?

Librarianship is already becoming more attractive financially than teaching. In our state,

* Lewis, E. E., Personnel problems of the teaching staff. Century, 1925.

the salary schedule for high school teachers who must be college graduates ranges from \$1,120 the first year to \$1,360 the fourth year. Principals and special teachers may receive more up to \$1,800 and \$1,600 respectively. These salaries are for nine months, of course.

Acceptance of low standards of preparation in librarians has been due in our locality, as elsewhere, to lack of people with adequate preparation. The difference between the cost of hiring a fully trained librarian and one with only high school and possibly summer school training is very slight. The summer school person receives \$900 to \$1,500 a year, the library school graduate from \$1,200 to \$1,800 in the small library. It is not usually a question of ability to pay.

I admit the impracticability of applying such standards at once or even within the next very few years. But I do believe such standards are attainable and can be attained by first setting up the standards and then setting up the educational equipment to attain them. Let the world know that librarians are always an educated group, and educated people will come into the profession. Let the tax raisers and tax-payers know that it costs money to run libraries and to hire librarians, and the money will be cheerfully given in return for adequate service. Let young people coming into librarianship know that there is no short cut to the holding of a responsible and remunerative position, and they will make the same effort to secure their education and training for librarianship that they do for law and medicine, teaching and engineering.

The same kind of facilities should be provided to make possible instalment professional courses such as are now supplied for teachers. The so-called Commission type of summer library school should be replaced as soon as possible by schools giving in a series of seasons the equivalent of a one-year course and meeting the standards for one-year library schools set up by the Board of Education for Librarianship. Such schools should as far as possible be connected with colleges or universities so that the work done would be awarded credit.

A glance at the tables in the appendices of the reports of the Board of Education for Librarianship shows that attendance at the library schools is predominantly sectional. Out of fifty-six Ohio students at library schools last year, thirty-six went to Western Reserve and six to Pittsburgh. Out of the total of sixty-two students at Western Reserve there were fifty-one from the middle west. Of the fifty-six California students at library schools all but three attended either the Los Angeles school or that at the University of California. A further analysis of student registration would doubtless

show that where the school is located in a large city the majority of the students are residents and that, further, most of these and perhaps some others remain to work in the local large city libraries. This fact and the attraction of other large libraries for graduates leave very few of the present product as possibilities for the small libraries. After twenty-five years there are now only seven graduates of Western Reserve Library School heading Ohio libraries. This is not a criticism but an analysis.

The same sort of geographical tendency is seen in analysis of normal college and state university school of education student registration. In the five Ohio state-supported colleges fifty-four per cent of all the embryo teachers come from the local or adjoining counties. All the schools but one, the Ohio State University, are in small towns. At Ohio State 756 of 1,287 students in the college of education fifty-nine per cent are from the local county. All this merely goes to prove that it is only the exceptionally blessed financially or the exceptionally determined student who will go even across or half-way across the state for his professional education. Many students whose families will gladly support them while they continue their education and live at home cannot finance a year or two away from home. They choose the line of least resistance and stay at home and become teachers or something else instead of librarians.

If the supply of librarians is going to begin to meet the needs library education must be made accessible to a much larger number. We must create the demand for trained service, the desire to take the training and provide the training agencies. Then by gradual process of elimination of the unfit without injustice to individuals we can arrive at a standard of service in small libraries as well as large which will be potentially at least fair to small library patrons.

To sum up: Standards presuppose certification and adequate state control. Librarians of small libraries should be measured by the same measuring stick as those of larger ones. The fundamental education required should not be less than the requirements for high school teaching. The present library schools are utterly inadequate for the training of a sufficient number of people for small library service and in most cases are providing very few graduates in that field. Geographical accessibility of schools is an important element in recruiting and schools must be established with this fact in view.

"Library Extension and Propaganda" by Lionel R. McColvin, chief librarian of Ipswich, England, and author of "Music in Public Libraries" and a "Theory of Book Selection," is announced by Grafton and Co., 51 Great Russell Street, London, W. C. 1.

Training for Library Work With Children

A STUDY OF ITS PLACE IN THE TRAINING CLASS CURRICULUM,* BY CARRIE E. SCOTT, DIRECTOR,
TRAINING CLASS, INDIANAPOLIS PUBLIC LIBRARY.

IN choosing the units which should be included in the curriculum of an elementary training course, the local library equation plays a very important part in the final selection. The value of any unit of instruction and the amount of time to be devoted to it, are determined by the function of that unit and the need for it in the local library.

As a prerequisite to this selection and use, we must take into consideration the aim, or object of a training class as a whole. It is generally conceded that the object of a library training class is three-fold: First, its aim is to develop in each individual student the desirable qualifications for general library work; second, to acquaint her with the principles which underlie the various phases of library work; third, to instruct her in the methods which are applied in carrying out these principles in the different departments of service in the local library. The instruction given is not calculated to provide a finished professional equipment, but it is supposed to train the student so that she may be able to render efficient service as a junior assistant in any department to which she may be assigned. Primarily, the purpose of a training class is to train for service in minor positions of the local library, the duties of these positions being mainly concerned with work, routine in nature.

The curriculum of a training class, therefore, must be composed of many units of instruction, serving as means as well as ends in order to fulfill this threefold purpose.

In a general course, there is no time for specialization along any particular line. No one unit should be superior to or more important than another, but all should be correlated, so that the result may be a well balanced whole. The basis of selection must rest upon local use and need.

According to the curriculum, suggested by the A. L. A. Board of Education for Librarianship and adopted by the Council at Atlantic City, March 7, 1926, one hundred hours were allotted to book evaluation, including children's books and cultural lectures. What proportion of these hundred hours is to be devoted to work with children depends upon the character of the local library and the growth and need of its children's work in that locality.

In the majority of public libraries now con-

ducting training classes, the circulation of books to children constitutes approximately one-half the total circulation. Usually, a large percentage of the students in the training classes become assistants in branch libraries, where work with children forms an important part, sometimes an overwhelming part, of the daily routine. A working knowledge of the methods of this work and especially of children's literature is essential to efficient service.

As a rule, library work with children is a new activity to the student. With few exceptions, previous study and experience have given little background and foundation for the work. The instructor has to build from the bottom up. For these reasons, if need and use form the basis of selection for the units of instruction, library work with children should be allotted a generous share of the one hundred hours. It would be impossible to accomplish very much with this course in less than thirty hours, if the objective is to be reached.

The purpose of the course in library work with children is to acquaint the students with the aids and principles which underlie the selection of children's books in a public library; to give an introduction to children's literature; and to present information which will give the student an intelligent comprehension of the scope and the operation of different phases of work with children in the local library. For the past four years, in the training class of the Indianapolis Public Library, we have allotted to this course in library work with children, thirty hours, using the lecture method of instruction, supplemented by problems and projects. Our course is subdivided as follows:

Six lectures on administration and extension, of which work with schools is a component part, eighteen lectures on children's literature, and six lectures as an introductory course in story telling.

ADMINISTRATION

In the administration course, the first lecture is devoted to a discussion of the general scope of children's work in the public library. We speak of the different phases of work both within and without the library walls. In order that the student may get a broader view of library work with children as a profession, reading assignments are made to the professional literature on the subject and oral reports on these assignments are made in class or written reports are submitted by each student.

* Paper read before the A. L. A. Training Class Section, Atlantic City, N. J., Oct. 8, 1926.

The second lecture discusses co-operation with civic agencies. We explain how our library work is correlated with various civic agencies and how it has a place on almost every child welfare program. Reading assignments are made and problems of local interest are required to be worked out.

The third lecture narrows this work with civic agencies to the schools, public, private, parochial. A general view of library work with schools is presented and reading assignments are made.

The fourth lecture is devoted to the details of the work of our own school libraries division; and the fifth, to school instruction on the use of the library with reading and problem assignments.

For the sixth and last lecture in administration, the problems of discipline are discussed and the policy of the library explained.

In this short course on Administration, lack of time compels us to touch only important phases, therefore, we have selected those a knowledge of which is absolutely necessary to the student who works as an assistant in the children's department, and of value to the assistant in any department of the library.

LITERATURE

The course in children's literature is presented in eighteen periods. Since the subject of children's books and literature offers a wide field for study and research, such a course as is outlined in a general training class, must, from necessity, be only elementary and introductory. In planning this course, we should take into consideration the use the student will make of it. Aids in selection and the principles which underlie the selection of children's books are not presented from the viewpoint of purchase or acquisition. That phase concerns only the head of the department and her assistants, who are especially trained and have a critical knowledge of children's books. Principles of selection are presented from the standpoint of recommendation to the juvenile patrons of the library and to persons interested in bringing children into contact with good books and reading. Students are taught to know the appealing points of various classes of books, to study the local book stock, to know comparative values. Assistants who serve the juvenile reading public must be qualified to give the right book to the right person at the right time.

From this course the student has an opportunity to learn the various types of books desirable for children's reading and to know and become familiar with those that are typical of the standards in children's literature. The more familiar students are with the books, the better qualified they are to recommend them and the

more intelligent is their direction of children's reading.

The clientele of the children's room includes boys and girls within the ages of six and fourteen. The assistant who serves them must know something of the books for the younger children—the books which they can read for themselves and the books which should be read to them. In our course of study, we must consider the picture books, the rhymes and jingles, the poetry, the folk tales, fairy stories, myths and legends, animal stories and primers and readers, in order to give a preparation for service to our younger readers. For our older boys and girls, we must take into consideration the problems of their school reading assignments, as well as their recreational reading. Our training class students must be given a working knowledge of the reference books, indexes, periodicals and encyclopedias found in the children's room and to know their comparative value. They should know representative books in the various classes of non-fiction, which supplement the school course of study, those most desirable for cultural reading, and their use according to school grade. Along with these, they should be acquainted with some of the best standard fiction and also the mediocre. They should know how the latter is to be used as a tool in creating an interest in the former. All lectures should be accompanied by book reports and discussions.

One of the most useful outlines on the study of children's literature is the "Course for Normal School Pupils on Literature for Children," by Julia S. Harron, Corinne Bacon and J. C. Dana, being part five, section five, of "Modern American Library Economy as Illustrated in the Newark, N. J., Free Public Library." We regret that this outline is now out of print. Altho prepared primarily for the instruction of Normal School students, it is just as applicable to the needs of students training for library service, and can easily be adapted to local needs. Let us hope that it will be revised and republished soon. The summary of the purpose of instruction in children's literature, found in the introduction is expressed as follows: "The love of books cannot be taught, it must be caught. These lessons attempt to give normal school students a brief history of children's books; to convince them of the value of the reading habit; to teach them how to judge books, and to disclose to them something of the wealth of material preserved in print for the child's instruction and delight." This statement of purpose is most pertinent to the course of instruction in children's literature in a library training class.

STORYTELLING

In our schedule, six lectures are devoted to story telling. The main purpose of this course is to discover talent. We should have enough

practice work to make sure this discovery. The students should learn the purpose of the story hour in a public library and how to plan and conduct it. They should know about the best story telling books and aids. They should be taught how to adapt long stories for the purpose of telling and how to choose from the wealth of material offered by the romance cycles, myths and legends. They should also know how to select the stories and plan programs for the celebration of holidays and special days. They must know how to use the story in school visiting and in playground work.

The best training for story telling provides a special course, to follow this general one, for those students who show ability in story telling and desire to develop it. In fact, one might say, that, in order to get assistants who are qualified to do library work with children, a special

course, planned more in detail along this particular line, should follow the general one, for those students who are especially interested and have aptitude for work in the children's department. Better still, these students should be encouraged after a year or two of experience, to pursue their studies further at a library school which offers special preparation in library work with children.

The purpose of this discussion, however, is not to treat of special courses, but to define the place of children's work in the general course. This we have roughly outlined. To sum up, then, we should make this unit of instruction strong enough to train students for active elementary service in children's work, to discover talent and thus open the way for special courses of training.

Library Work for Children in England

By W. C. BERWICK SAYERS,

Chief Librarian, Public Libraries, Croydon, England.

IT is unnecessary in this paper to dwell at any length upon the history of the movement to provide books for children thru public libraries in England, because others have written about it, and have written well. That it was a most desirable provision for the public library to make was recognized from the very beginning of the public library movement, and rooms devoted to the use of boys were included in the Manchester Public Libraries before the eighteen-sixties, and I believe were imitated quite early elsewhere. In the eighties the late John Potter Briscoe inaugurated modern library work with children at Nottingham, and in the nineties "children's halls," definitely in charge of children's librarians, and really well-equipped as reading rooms of a reference character, were an inspiration carried into practical effect by Mr. John Ballinger at Cardiff. To the example and the writings of Mr. Ballinger may be attributed in large measure the growth of the movement in Britain.

But, if the attempts I have described to provide the library for children came earlier in England than in most other countries, this offspring of the bibliothecal imagination was rickety and failed to secure sufficient nourishment. We have always professed, and in fact possessed, a high respect for literary acquirements, tinged with a fear that if the other man secures too much of them the result will in some way be inimical to ourselves. I mean the love of learning took rather the form of a belief that it was excellent for our own sons but not so desirable for the sons of other men. That is a notion

which the last fifty years have seen evaporate to a great extent; but at the beginning of modern library history, altho not expressed in the bald terms I have just used, it certainly existed in the secret hearts of those who were in power. So, while the Libraries Acts gave power to found Libraries, Museums, and Schools of Science and Art, our Legislators, in a panic lest local authorities should run to unimaginable extravagances in providing them, limited the whole expenditure on all these things to the product of a one-penny rate on assessable town rents, and this remained the law until 1919. Can you see what that meant? My American hearers sometimes complain, in their most valuable Annual Reports, of their want of means; but none of them can ever have visualized the absolute struggle of the British librarian doomed to administer a library system on the product of what we knew as the penny rate. You are rightly urging that one dollar a head is a reasonable library tax, but under our old rating system in England for twenty years we were limited hopelessly to an income of less than 14 cents *a head*, even in cities of high taxable value. Thru a nightmare of penury and of restrictions such librarians as James Duff Brown, and many another pioneer whom we hold in reverence, built up what in the circumstances was an astoundingly fine library system and library profession in this country.

But, seeing that the purpose of the library for children is, and must always be, to produce a better adult reader, the adult was considered to have prior claim on such funds as

were available. Even for them our library provision was necessarily inadequate, for, by that paradox which is a puzzle to many, the demands of the general population grew year after year, and at the same time the means by which they they could be satisfied were withheld. Britain has now what is one of the most generous library laws in existence; that is to say, a law which gives local authorities the power to spend any amount they choose upon their libraries; but the tradition that libraries ought to cost almost nothing, and librarians rather less than that, is still very prevalent. No town in the whole country has yet levied a generous library rate. But, altho we have not yet reached the Delectable Mountains, we can catch a distant view of them, and the way thither is not hopelessly closed by a legislative barrier. We are progressing. And one of our most recent forms of progress has been the almost sporadic growth of libraries for children.

It was bound to come: the growing interest in the child made it inevitable; and in 1917 the Library Association crystallized the matter in a resolution which affirmed that library work with children ought to be the foundation of all other library work. America had its full influence here. Mr. L. Stanley Jast and others, as well as the teachers sent over to the United States by the Moseley Commission, had brought back accounts of American achievements this way which gave a new vitality to your text-books and to your special children's library numbers of the *LIBRARY JOURNAL*. And now we recognize that the children's department is an essential part of every new public library and must sooner or later be grafted on to every older one. Please do not think that such work began in 1917. Fifteen years before that there were libraries for children at many places, including Liverpool, Glasgow, Islington, Stepney, and Chelsea, and every library in the country had some separate corner, if not a whole apartment, devoted to young readers. Moreover, with and without the co-operation of local education committees, systems of school libraries, somewhat on the model of the rural travelling library were in operation in many towns, as at Cardiff, Croydon, Bromley, Bootle and elsewhere; in some of which education funds provided apparatus and books and the public libraries the service. In 1917, however, a certain standard, largely based upon your own, was declared to be desirable, and in 1919 the means to work towards it became available.

Then followed a discussion of the aims and methods of such a service. Models of the children's library that might be followed existed in three towns. At Cardiff, children might read books and periodicals, have lessons given them by their teachers, and listen to lectures, etc., in

the Children's Halls. For their home-reading, however, the school libraries provided most of the books, altho there was a small circulating collection of books for children in each adult library.

In Islington the reading room and reference library for children formed the greater part of one apartment; but an enclosure within it, to which admission was thru wickets, contained an open shelf home reading library. The library at Chelsea resembled that at Islington, except that the books were not on open shelves.

The theory of each of the three methods can be easily understood. School libraries, being under the immediate supervision of the teachers, were supposed to give the teachers control of the leisure reading of the children in a desirable manner. It must of course be remembered that trained school librarians are an American institution; the teacher dealt with the English library in the intervals of more important business. It was unnecessary, therefore, it was urged, to provide a circulating library for children at the public library itself. In most towns, however, school libraries either did not exist, or existing, were not commensurate with the needs of the children. To meet this a complete public library for children was provided on the second model as at Islington. Of the third model it need only be said that in the normal public library "closed" shelves are rapidly giving way to the now almost universally accepted open shelf system.

Apart from these considerations, there was the question of admission and actual working. The ordinary conception of the work is that *any* child, whether actuated by mere curiosity or by a desire for reading, can gain entrance to the library. We sometimes hear that the police have to be called in to regulate the streams of children clamoring to get into new libraries; and sometimes of single children's departments which circulate as many as 600 books daily for home reading. Such libraries cannot obviously do anything approximating to ideal library work with children; they are substitutes for the playground or merely book-distributing centres. This is the reflection that crosses one's mind when pictures of children's rooms, so congested with readers that movement is impossible, are published as evidence of their popularity.

The opposed ideal, if it be an ideal, is that, by arrangement with teachers, only so many children as can be dealt with personally by the staff of the department are admitted at any one time. The librarian ought ultimately to know the children as intimately and individually as the teacher is expected to know them. That, it may be urged, is an impossible ideal; because it must mean either some sort of discrimination amongst the children, so that only the "good"

—who is by no means necessarily the best—child is admitted; or that many of the children desiring to use the room must be refused on grounds which are not adequate or clearly defined. There is, of course, a danger that the selecting of children by the teacher may act detrimentally to the work; but I would urge that if there is any activity in which teacher and librarian must be of one mind and work together it is this. That child is most unhappy whose powers or character are misread by his teacher, but I have grave doubts as to the ability or even right of the librarian to correct the error. As to the large number who may suffer disappointment, their needs make a case for more libraries, not for a crowding of existing ones. In short, rational library work is impossible with a mob of children.

For most libraries, however, all that has been possible has been to provide as attractive a room as might be, well-decorated, lighted and ventilated, to equip it with standard furniture, the best books and periodicals we know, and some good pictures; and to allow these to do their own good work. We had until quite recently no children's librarians; we have very few now. This is not surprising because until the War there were not fifty library posts in the whole of Britain carrying a salary worthy of a profession; and today, except in the great cities, there is rarely more than one in each town. Further, the number of women in library work was small: probably not fifteen per cent of the whole. Things are improving in both particulars, and this question of the children's librarian, her training, status and pay, is engaging our attention at the moment. We are beginning to believe that special librarians are necessary, and that until our library authorities are willing to recognize the fact more generally the best development is not possible. (Such analytic studies of the reading of children as are evidenced in the "Winnetka Graded Booklist," and in a work which I feel would have been better for a closer reference to the results noted in public libraries—Lewis M. Terman and Margaret Lima's "Children's Reading: a Guide for Parents and Teachers"—are out of our range until we have librarians who can devote themselves wholly to the work.)

The generosity of the Carnegie United Kingdom Trust has produced what is called "the County Library" in the British Isles. It is important in this connection, because in our rural districts, altho our adult peasantry is probably as literate as that of any country, the greatest use of the circulating collections of books appears to be made by the children. There is now hardly a county without some sort of book service even in its remote villages, and as most of the deposit stations are the schools and the

teachers the honorary librarians, the results are likely to be incalculable. No one has really assessed and gauged what may be the ultimate effects of this sudden, and almost universal, factor in the villages.

Our position may be summed up. Every town library in the country in some way or other circulates books to children, and the county libraries are reaching many of, and will soon reach all, the villages. In all the great cities, and in many of the lesser, there are separate departments devoted to children, but they are of greatly varying quality. Some are apartments of great beauty as at Manchester, Edinburgh, Glasgow and elsewhere, where an attempt has been made to produce the right atmosphere; some, merely bare rooms containing books and periodicals. In every new library a children's department is included. In many libraries there are talks, lectures, and story-hours for the children; at Croydon, for example, we have 200 story hours each winter in three children's libraries. In one or two towns a story teller is employed as a member of staff. Nevertheless, in only a few libraries is a proper children's librarian employed, and that, in my view, is the key of the whole position.

A minor point is that some of us revolt at the name, "the children's library." The implications of the phrase "We are but little children weak" are perhaps better appreciated by adults than by children themselves. Boys over twelve do not care to be called "children," and many of them have flatly refused to use a "children's library." But we want our so-called children's library to hold the child for long after that; and I feel that while none of my hearers would relish being called a child, the same objection would not arise in the mind were he or she called a junior.

I fear that my paper may seem to be vague and wandering. That was not my desire, as I warmly appreciate the honour of being allowed to contribute to your great Jubilee celebrations—celebrations in which an English librarian can as unaffectedly rejoice as his American colleague, seeing that he, too, has benefited equally from the fifteen years of effort and achievement commemorated. I have thought, however, that a general statement of the position and the tendencies of the children's library in England would be more interesting than pages of statistical matter, and perhaps quite as useful.

Carl B. Roden has completed his fortieth year's service at the Chicago Public Library where he progressed from page in 1886 thro various positions to the charge of the cataloging department in 1908 and acting librarian and assistant librarian until 1918 when he succeeded Henry E. Legler as librarian.

The Library Building of the Future

By SAMUEL H. RANCK

Librarian of the Grand Rapids (Mich.) Library

IT is always a dangerous thing to attempt the rôle of a prophet, if one has any regard for his reputation. It is so easy to draw on one's imagination, where there are no limits, except fancy based on facts as one now sees them. All real progress, however, springs from ideas that at first were only a dream of fancy in some one's mind, and this thought should give one courage. It is with mixed feelings of courage and hesitancy, therefore, that I invite you to accompany me to a consideration of future library buildings. And while we are traveling in this dream world of the future let us at the same time keep our feet on the hard ground of reality.

I shall not go into the important subject of the library site—the proper location of a library building with reference to its use—a matter on which we might well spend all the time at our disposal, for it is my conviction that most of our older and many of our newer public library buildings are very badly located from the point of view of public service. I shall assume that the building is located on a site where it can best serve its constituency, which means that full consideration has been given to the work the library is to perform and that the site is selected accordingly. A public library designed to serve the masses of the people demands a different location from a reference library designed to serve a limited number of scholars.

The architectural character of a well planned and well equipped building always has a definite relation to the functions that are to be performed in it. The conception of the functions of a library, therefore, sooner or later dominates the character of the building. A library building is a success to the extent that it fulfills the purpose for which it was erected. In all building plans more and more attention should be given to a most careful consideration of the functions of the library, both present and prospective. With the changing conceptions of the functions of a library, and particularly a public library, architectural types have changed necessarily; and they will continue to change with our changing conceptions. Originally the idea of the library was that of preserving something that was very rare and precious, and consequently the temple or ecclesiastical type of architecture has been the dominant note in many of the older library buildings. It was to preserve in quiet and seclusion for the use of scholars rare books, manuscripts, etc. Few persons were expected to use these buildings; and few did.

Such buildings are wholly inadequate for present day public library work and they will be more inadequate in the future. The renaissance palace type of library building has much the same point of view, but from a different angle. And inadequacy dominates almost every feature of the public library building that was designed with the idea that the whole function of the library is the circulation of books, chiefly ephemeral fiction.

With the democratization of library service, library buildings are gradually changing, but as a class our buildings today are far behind the modern conception of service which the library is supposed to perform. In short, most of our library buildings are a heavy handicap to the work we are trying to do in them, or to the work we ought to do in them. Business structures, particularly structures devoted to a retail distributing business, have achieved much greater success than our libraries in making the building and its equipment an active agent in getting their service to the people.

There is no compulsion to enter the library as in the case of the school, and with the majority of people there is no active desire. The building itself and its arrangement should create a desire to enter and to make use of its facilities on the part of the people on the outside. This is the idea that has dominated the recent architecture of stores, theatres, etc. They are planned to create a desire for the things which the institution has to offer. The public library building of the future, much more than of the past, is going to be governed by the thought that its architecture and whole arrangement must create a desire for its service on the part of all who see it from the street; and it is perfectly possible to carry out this idea with good taste and beauty. In short, beauty and utility can, and should, go together, hand in hand.

I am fond of saying that the business of the public library is to keep the community intellectually alive and growing. A library that reaches and serves only a small percentage of its community is not a real public library, because it fails to make the contacts of service which are the reason for its being. To perform this function it must make contacts with the people in masses and our buildings must be arranged so as to invite, encourage, and give satisfaction with these contacts. In a large city public library the problem is one of the free and economical movement of large numbers of persons

and things—the public and the books. The internal architecture, therefore, should be as free as possible from permanent walls and partitions so as to make it easy to readjust and rearrange to meet new needs and new conditions. The best future buildings will take these facts into consideration.

Library buildings should be elastic, planned to permit easy and economical expansion, both horizontally and vertically. In the great central buildings of our large cities, where land is so costly, stacks will be built as far below the street level as above it, and we shall depend entirely on artificial light for stack lighting. A few of our recent library buildings have included some or all of the foregoing ideas.

Another element that is having its influence on modern library architecture and the use of the library is the change in the size of families and in the size of homes. Families with no children, or with one, two or three children at the most, need a wholly different type of home from the family of six to twelve children, as was quite common two generations ago. This change in the family life of the people is changing not only the architecture of our homes, but is also changing the equipment that goes into them. This change is going to react more and more on our public libraries in cities, for with these smaller homes and smaller living quarters there is no room for the large private libraries that were quite common in well-to-do families years ago.

These family changes mean among other things more space in the building for reading and more comprehensive reference collections, with more relatively small branch libraries near the homes of the people (at least one for every square mile of closely built up territory) and in our larger buildings rooms devoted to phonograph records, music and music rolls, lectures, moving pictures, films, and exhibitions of all kinds. Even the radio as a disseminator of worth while ideas should have a place in our new library buildings. Our large main buildings will give more and more attention to provision for research work and they will have storage facilities for vast quantities of little used, but none the less valuable, materials. Our branch buildings should be planned with the idea that the library will systematically discard the out-of-date for the up-to-date and live material.

Our smaller American cities can serve the people best by combining under one roof the library, the museum, and the art gallery, often under the same general management, but possibly also under different managements, but nevertheless under the same roof, or immediately contiguous to each other. They all help in educating the community, and each group of interests adds strength to the others, when they are close to each other. This has never been a

popular idea with librarians in America, largely because we have not fully realized the great educational value of well displayed objects, and their close relation to the regular conventional work of the library. Nevertheless our larger new buildings are all giving more and more space to exhibition work, and find that it is very much worth while as a regular library activity. This sort of work is certainly one of the functions of a modern public library, and our buildings must recognize it accordingly.

One of the most significant and far-reaching educational movements today, world-wide in its extent, is the promotion of the education of its members on the part of organized labor. Labor colleges are springing up both in America and abroad, largely because existing institutions, libraries among them, have failed to meet the educational needs that are so keenly felt by many of our working men and women. Many of these people are more or less inarticulate but they have felt that our existing institutions are indifferent, if not antagonistic, to many of their aspirations for a larger and richer life. And with our present buildings and their equipment usually wholly inadequate to meet these needs they have passed the library by to create new institutions. In our buildings and in all our work libraries should be prepared to function up to new opportunities related to their present work, rather than have society continually create new institutions to do the work we have left undone. If libraries do not meet the demands of society for new forms of free educational work new institutions will be created to do it, and we as librarians will have lost in public esteem and in prestige. Our great universities are living examples of the widest variety of service more or less successfully carried on by one institution. In a similar way our libraries from an organization point of view are capable of a vast extension of function.

Library buildings should be regarded not as a possession of the library alone, but as an opportunity for the community to educate itself in the spirit of freedom, which is the great field of the library, as contrasted with the formal and directed education of our schools. The library should be the center of the intellectual life of its people, and should provide meeting places for all kinds of non-exclusive groups of people interested in literary, educational, artistic or scientific pursuits.

As I understand the longings of an increasing number of industrial workers today, it is not wages alone that appeal to them most, important as they are, but the desire to live a richer and fuller life, a life of greater self-expression, both for themselves and their children. They are reaching out more and more for the best fruits of our civilization—a better appreciation of literature, music, art, and science, and the joy in life

and in work that comes from knowledge and inspiration. Such a civilized standard of life is going to be regarded as the right of all men, rather than the privilege of the few of more or less wealth. Our future conceptions of the functions of the library will require buildings that can serve the masses of the people in all the old and newer ways, keep them intellectually alive and growing, make them think, and live a more joyous life to an extent that we hardly dare to dream of now. The need of such intelligence on the part of the masses of our people is no less fundamental for the development of the race

than is the need for their health and physical well-being.

The need for us as librarians is to sense these longings for a more abundant life on the part of increasing numbers of people and to be ready for them with library buildings adequate for the times. And we should do all these things with the conviction so well expressed by Whittier in his poem on *The Branded Hand*, "The one sole sacred thing beneath the cope of heaven is man."

This paper is the substance of a talk made at the Atlantic City A. L. A. Round Table on Library Buildings, October 5, 1926.

The Library Worker Speaks

By CONSTANCE BEMENT

Director, Extension Division, Michigan State Library, Lansing.

OUR general subject for discussion this afternoon is what training is desirable* for librarians of smaller libraries and what is obtainable, and it is my province to represent the worker.

I have wondered just what the library worker would say, if she should suddenly become articulate. My own feeling is that if she should speak, she would say, "I am the most isolated worker in any profession, and I quite frequently wonder whether even the most sympathetic librarian in a larger field can really understand my problems. And if satisfactory standards of professional training are going to be worked out for me, the two points which I have made must be carefully considered." I believe that our worker is right and that if we are going to give her status the proper consideration, we must first consider who she is.

And who is she? Generally speaking she is probably the only philanthropist which her small town affords; not always, of course, but more often than not she works for \$1.50 a week and furnishes her own "oil and glue." Perhaps she is a married woman with a child and a husband who is constantly on the road. Sometimes she is a person who is tied to the small town by her family and prefers to wear out rather than rust out. Then there is the woman who must support herself with a variety of odd jobs, because there is not a great enough market for any one of her products. And last but not least, there is that rare soul who works for the good of the cause, and many others besides. What, then, have these variously selected persons to contribute to library work as a whole; what have we a right

to demand of them in the way of professional training, and what have we to offer that fits their needs?

Ethel M. Fair, in "A Unit for Library Service," published in the *Wisconsin Library Bulletin* for July 1925, says that "Library Service" is not possible in a town of less than 4000 inhabitants, and she is undoubtedly right, tho I believe it is quite frequently approximated. And here again I wish to emphasize the first point that our worker has made, that she is completely isolated. Even the most obtuse school director knows vaguely what the school is for, but how few users of the average small library have any comprehension of the real meaning of library service. Probably our worker herself does not comprehend the full significance of her task, but she is very conscious of her shortcomings, she also realizes that there is an easier and better way to meet her problems, and she would gladly welcome any training helps that were not put beyond her reach, and were adapted to her needs.

At the present time there are very few summer courses which will accept an applicant who hasn't a high school diploma and a certain amount of experience. And the standards are still being raised. In some instances we are told that perhaps next year our junior assistants will not be eligible for the short course unless they have had some college work. Where does such a situation leave us as far as the totally untrained worker of the small town library is concerned? What are we going to say, for instance, to one of our best workers, who, we shall say for the sake of argument, has not had as much formal education as the law requires, but has a background of European travel, knows more about birds and trees and flowers than I could ever

* Paper read at the A. L. A. Small Libraries Round Table, Atlantic City, N. J., Oct. 5, 1926.

hope to know about any one of them, and what is more has shared that knowledge with every child that comes to her library? I do not know of many libraries that are so vital a part of the community as this one is, yet technically speaking that librarian would not be entitled to entrance to any of the training courses now being offered. That there are many others of the same kind I am sure. Our librarian does not need hair-splitting instruction in cataloging, I rather think she would scorn a shelflist, but she has an orderly mind, and would be grateful for help in the simplification of her routine. And she desires a broader outlook on her work and a common meeting ground where she can discuss her problems.

In Michigan there have been two interesting developments of late, which very broadly speaking might be put in the class of training agencies. One was a conscious, the other an unconscious development. The latter was developed by the workers themselves in an effort to overcome the isolation of which I have spoken so often. In one of the counties there were two very energetic librarians who frequently went to the state meeting together, but found that it was a long time from meeting to meeting and wished that they could get together oftener. Then one or both of them had an inspiration, and they decided to form a county organization. There were three other libraries in the county, and they were invited to join. They meet every other month and would like to have other libraries in the county so that they could meet oftener. It really is a great piece of co-operative work; the richer libraries loan their professional magazines, *Reader's Guide* and expensive tools to the less fortunate ones, they exchange groups of books to bring variety into their book collections, and jointly they put on an exhibit at the county fair to sell the library idea to the entire county. But even more valuable than a piece of co-operative work, has been the work of this Association as a training agency. Here they have met on common ground, each has contributed something to the solution of the other's problems. One, an expert mender, has helped those less expert with their hands; another has passed on her knowledge of temporary magazine binding, and still a third has shown them the value of pamphlets as reference material, and so forth. But more than anything else it has given them an outlook upon library work as a whole, not just their little part of it.

To accomplish something of the same kind, the Extension Division of the Michigan State Library held a Library Institute in connection with the Michigan State College, this summer. This Institute lasted two weeks and we called it a Conference. It was in the nature of a "glorified Round Table" as some one said. Our main

idea was to give the people who attended some vision of their work, and many of the outstanding librarians of the state were drafted for service. The work was not at all instructional in character, everyone in the group was urged to express herself freely, and opportunity was given everyone to discuss her special problems with the person best fitted to help her. Practical library housekeeping and "Books" were the subjects stressed. Practically everyone attending the Conference had had more or less experience but no training. One at least of those attending the Institute, who had a previous summer course, got more from the Institute, for what it gave her was related to her actual experience and not just theory. One thing that was greatly in the Institute's favor was the time element. Two weeks is all the vacation some of us get, and two weeks is about as much as the mother of four can take away from her family. Then, too, it dissipated that sense of isolation.

We had a registration of fifty-one at our Institute, but that, of course, did not represent a continuous attendance. Many came in from nearby libraries, some only for a day, others for two or three. A library institute is hardly a panacea for the training problem of the librarian of the small library. It is not at all practical for the inexperienced worker who has no library background, but it will stimulate a certain number of them to take real training, and those who cannot do that will come back again for renewed enthusiasm and that sense of well-being which one gets from contact with a group, all of whom speak the same language. And so, I repeat, that which the worker in the small library wants and needs is less isolation and a more comprehending discussion of her immediate problems.

Avrahm Yarmolinsky, chief of the Slavonic division of the New York Public Library, is author of "Turgenev: The Man—His Art—and His Age," just published by the Century Company. Statements of fact . . . derived "chiefly from sources which being in Russian are inaccessible to Western readers" and "drawn from works running into the hundreds" will cause this work to be welcomed in American libraries.

Publications Received

Putnam, David Binney. David Goes to Greenland. With a foreword by Captain Bob Bartlett. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons. 1926. il. 167p. \$1.75.

Art for Children—as shown by modern European Picture books. Brooklyn, N. Y.: Brooklyn Museum. il.

Munday, A. H. Tin and the tin industry: the metal history, character and application. New York: Isaac Pitman and Sons. 130p. illus. \$1.

The Fiftieth Anniversary Conference—II

REPORTS OF A. L. A. SECTIONS, ROUND TABLES, AND OTHER GROUPS

Sections

Agricultural Libraries Section

PRESENT trends in agricultural work were the topic of the meeting of the Agricultural Libraries Section, called to order Friday afternoon, October 8, by the chairman, Lucy M. Lewis, librarian of the Oregon Agricultural College. Miss Lewis in her introductory remarks noted the monthly mimeographed publication entitled *Agricultural Library Notes* which has been issued during 1926 by Claribel R. Barnett, librarian of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, in response to the request of the Agricultural Libraries Section at the Seattle meeting. Miss Lewis said that this publication had already been of great assistance to agricultural libraries, and she urged a greater degree of co-operation in its preparation on the part of the agricultural libraries themselves. She then introduced Charles H. Brown, librarian of the Iowa State College, who read a paper on "Some Objectives for Agricultural Libraries" which will be printed in full in the *LIBRARY JOURNAL*.

There followed a discussion of the methods and amount of time devoted to the instruction of students in the use of the library, participated in by Miss Forrest of Montana, Mr. Brown of Iowa, Mr. Windsor of Illinois, Miss Burwash of Illinois, Mr. Davis of Mississippi, Mr. Lewis of New Hampshire, Miss Barnes of Maryland, Miss Doggett of South Carolina, Miss Pearson of North Dakota, Miss West of Texas and others, which developed the fact that instruction in the use of the library varied from one semester hour for all freshmen to two groups of lectures, five in the fall and five in the spring. It was agreed that such instruction was an important matter, but was a very heavy burden for the poorly manned agricultural library. The discussion developed the point that this work has an important bearing on teaching students to make proper bibliographic entries for theses, and saves much time in the long run for students, library worker and instructors.

Mr. Severance of Missouri brought up the matter of the great need for a centralized distribution agency in institutions which issue publications of any kind. He introduced the resolution following, which was passed without dissent: *Whereas*, it becomes necessary for librarians to write to several departments of some universities for the acquisition of their publications such as bulletins, studies and monographs, instead of to a central agency, be it

Resolved by the Agricultural Libraries Section of the American Library Association that it request the librarians of such universities and colleges to make an effort to secure the centralization of the distribution of their publications so as to facilitate the acquisition and distribution of such publications.

In the absence of Grace Derby of Kansas, the chairman asked Mr. Lewis of New Hampshire to read a statement which Miss Derby had sent as a contribution to the discussion of Mr. Brown's paper. It outlined the work being done at the Kansas Agricultural College and was entitled "Agricultural College Libraries and Radio Broadcasting."

"One would logically expect the library to give talks on literature, book reviews and related subjects," wrote Miss Derby. "Here, the English department contributes these and some member of the library staff occasionally supplements them. At present our reference department is broadcasting the current events once each week on the rural school programs at nine a. m. So far as our station is able to determine there are about one hundred schools in Kansas which have receiving sets, and of course one never knows how many more sets may be tuned in. In any line of library work one never has any satisfactory idea of its effectiveness. In radio work this is especially true, for there can be no personal response at the time the work is being given. Of the letters received by our station ninety-nine and a fraction per cent have commented favorably on the work. But we must remember that of those who may listen in only a small percentage ever send any communication regarding it. Last spring one of the noon hours was given over each week to answering questions asking for information on different subjects that had been presented. In one week our physics department received seventy-five letters asking for information regarding the installation of radios. Also about this time a "letter week" was announced asking that during a certain week letters commenting on two of the series of programs given be sent to us, with the result that in one mail 102 letters were received commenting on one individual program and during this week over 1100 letters were received regarding the work. Our conclusion is that with sufficient funds at hand to map out a worth-while program the radio in library work would prove to be decidedly successful."

James G. Hodgson, librarian of the International Institute of Agriculture at Rome, described the library of that institution. The

International Institute of Agriculture is supported by seventy-one different countries for the collection and distribution of information concerning agriculture in all its phases, scientific, economic, sociological and other aspects. The Institute does not do any original work of its own except the collection of statistics and the publishing of a few studies on particular problems, such as efforts to control grasshoppers or the study of quarantine and plant diseases. All publications are in several languages. In the seventeen years' development of the Institute, a large library has grown up. Efforts have been made to have a well-rounded and complete collection, so that it has 3,500 periodicals regularly and on the book shelves something like 6,000 serials. At present the library has between ninety and one hundred thousand volumes and in time hopes to have 160 or 180 thousand volumes. After Mr. Hodgson's appointment a donation for the reorganization of the library was obtained. By this means funds were obtained for the training of students. "We tried to leave the classed catalog alone as much as possible. The collections are enormous and possess the greatest possibilities. We are trying to put our library on the same basis as the American agricultural libraries. This library should be a co-operative center for European libraries. We are trying to introduce in the agricultural library field the co-operative effort that is so characteristic in American libraries and to eradicate national boundary lines. The collections date back to 1909, and we can be a clearing house for the American libraries when they wish something foreign for their American collections."

A report of progress on the compilation of the indexes to the official sources of state agricultural statistics was presented by Margaret T. Olcott of the Library of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. Fifteen months have passed since the Agricultural Libraries Section decided at its last meeting to further in every way possible the indexing of the state official agricultural statistics of the various states. During that period the actual accomplishment has been as follows:

Alabama. The index for Alabama has been made, mimeographed and 500 copies distributed. This first edition is almost exhausted and a new run has been asked for.

Oklahoma. The Oklahoma index is practically ready for editing and typing. Oklahoma was the first state to send someone to Washington from its state agricultural library to compile the index to its agricultural statistics. Miss Icelle Wright, assistant librarian of the Oklahoma State Agricultural College, worked in the Library of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics

from the first of July until the middle of September—ten weeks and two days of intensive work—and finished the indexing with the exception of a few items which she may secure from the files of the State Department of Agriculture. It is not known how long it will be before this index will be available. It will be printed by the Oklahoma Agricultural College. Margaret Walters, reference librarian of the same institution, joined Miss Wright for two weeks and compiled an annotated list of the unofficial sources of agricultural statistics in the state. This list will accompany the index.

California. "Indexing California's agricultural statistics is a colossal task." Louise O. Bercaw of the Library of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics has been working intermittently for almost a year, indexing the official statistics. The amount of material thus compiled is already greater in volume than Alabama and Oklahoma combined, and Miss Bercaw thinks it is not yet half finished. It is improbable that the index can be finished by the end of this year. California is one of the states whose unofficial statistics are extensive and important. They are being indexed by Mrs. M. J. Abbott, agricultural reference librarian of the University of California, and her assistants. A letter from Mrs. Abbott dated September 23, 1926 says: "Concerning our work on the 'Unofficial Sources of California Agricultural Statistics' I can report that we have about finished the first draft of our compilation."

Idaho. A preliminary list of the sources of the agricultural statistics of Idaho has been compiled in the library of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. It was compiled as an exhibit of the type of list which it might be possible for each agricultural college library to make as a preliminary to the detailed index.

Maryland. A survey of Maryland prices of agricultural and other products was planned by one of the Divisions of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics and the library was asked to supply a list of the sources where such prices would be found. In compiling this list a start has been made towards a preliminary list similar to the one for Idaho.

Miss Barnett read the report of the Committee on the Eunice Rockwood Oberly Memorial Fund. Miss Barnett called attention to the fact that Mr. Max Meisel was in the audience. Mr. Meisel won the first award of the Oberly prize for volume 1 of his *Bibliography of American Natural History*. He made a few remarks on the progress of this bibliography, volume 2 of which is soon to be printed.

Claribel Barnett was elected chairman and Willard P. Lewis secretary of the Section.

MARY G. LACY, *Secretary*.

Catalog Section

THAT Dewey Decimal classification numbers as well as Library of Congress numbers should appear on the printed cards of the Library of Congress was the substance of a resolution adopted by the Catalog Section at its business meeting, Tuesday afternoon, Oct. 5. The resolution, presented by Theresa Hitchler of Brooklyn, embodied the recommendations of the section chairman, Mary E. Hyde of Simmons College, who stated that it had been her desire that the Catalog Section should accomplish something notable and lasting to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the A. L. A. She said that the issuing of printed cards by the Library of Congress for the past twenty-five years has been the biggest forward step yet taken in the line of cataloging service, and that the inclusion of the L. C. classification symbols on the printed cards has been of great benefit to libraries using that classification, but because the majority of libraries are classified by the Dewey Decimal classification, there has been a wide-spread desire for many years that the D. C. numbers, as well as the L. C., should appear on the printed cards. It has been fully realized, however, that the Library of Congress can not be expected to furnish D. C. numbers which are wholly valueless in its own work. Another matter of great importance is to have more analyticals made for composite works than it is possible for the Library of Congress to undertake. These two plans have been much discussed, but the question of financing such work has seemed in the past to be an insuperable difficulty. The best plan would, obviously, be to have the work done by a permanent body of workers at the Library of Congress. Has the time not come when it is possible to bring these two desires to realization? The Carnegie Corporation of New York has promised the A. L. A. a very considerable sum for pushing library development. Has not the generosity of the Carnegie Corporation to the A. L. A. made this the right year for the Catalog Section to petition the A. L. A. to finance a corps of workers at the Library of Congress sufficient to do this work? With this plan in mind the chairman sought the advice of various catalogers, including the Committee on Cataloging, and corresponded with Dr. Putnam and Mr. Milam, in order that the matter might be presented to the section in as concrete a form as possible. At this point Miss Hyde read selections from her correspondence with Dr. Putnam and Mr. Milam, and stated that several catalogers had felt that the work should be carried on under the direction of the Committee on Cataloging, and further that the suggestion had been made that the matter of analyticals should be consid-

ered with a view to include more than card analyticals, if need be.

Miss Hitchler then presented the following resolution:

Whereas, the catalogers of the country have long desired to have Decimal classification numbers printed on Library of Congress cards, and also to have more analyses of composite works made than it is possible for the Library of Congress to undertake, be it

Resolved, That the Catalog Section ask the Council to request the Executive Board of the A. L. A. to consider financing such work, and if possible, making arrangements with the Library of Congress whereby the work may be carried on at that Library by a corps of experts working under direction of the Committee on Cataloging—it being definitely understood that the Library of Congress shall be put to no expense whatsoever in connection with the work, that it shall have no responsibility for the work done, but that it shall have such general supervision of the corps of workers as will insure against their special work's interfering with the ordinary work of the Library of Congress.

Ernest C. Richardson of the Library of Congress then presented a resolution calling attention to the merits of the work on classification by Henry E. Bliss, "The Organization of Knowledge and the Classification of Books," and asking that the Editorial Committee of the A. L. A. be requested to aid diligently in securing a publisher for it. The resolution was adopted.

Complying with President Belden's request that the sections limit the number of their sessions this year in order that there might be more time for general sessions, the Catalog Section allowed only one afternoon for its meeting. As the constitution of the Section provides that "at each annual meeting of the Section two sessions shall be held" the afternoon was divided into two parts or sessions, to conform to the constitution. After adjournment of the first session the second followed immediately.

The report of the secretary-treasurer, Linn Blanchard of Princeton University, stated that during the year 1925-1926, 254 individuals and seven regional groups had paid their dues in the Section. Cash on hand, July 30, 1925: \$59.95. Cash on hand, Oct. 2, 1926: \$198.62.

The report of the Directory Committee, Eliza Lamb, chairman, was read, in her absence, by Gertrude Forstall. 546 catalogers are now registered and a supplementary address list of 140 names was published in the LIBRARY JOURNAL of March 1st, 1926. The question was asked if catalogers wish an address book or a directory. The report was accepted as read, but no action was taken to guide the Committee in its future policy.

The report of the Song Index Committee, Franklin F. Hopper, chairman, was read in his absence by the secretary. Mr. Hopper stated that the Song Index went to press in the summer and that he had written an introduction for it, and further that a copy giving the preliminary

matter and a few specimen pages of the text would be on exhibit during the conference.

The report of the Committee on Formation of Regional Groups of Catalogers, Mrs. Jennie T. Jennings, chairman, showed excellent progress during the year in fostering new groups. Since the last meeting of the Section the following have been organized: Capitol District (New York), Michigan, Pacific Northwest, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Southeastern, making a total at present of sixteen regional groups. Mrs. Jennings had prepared a map showing the location of each group, and this was exhibited in the Catalog Section booth during the conference.

* Margaret Mann of the University of Michigan Library School read a letter, in translation, addressed to the Secretary of the A. L. A. by M. Pierre Roland-Marcel, general administrator of the Bibliothèque Nationale, calling attention to the new photographic reproduction of its catalog that is under way.

Mary Burnham of the H. W. Wilson Co., editor of the "United States Catalog," stated that at present the headings under U. S. are given in the inverted form in the Catalog, but that requests have come in to have them given in the straight form, as the Library of Congress does. She asked for the judgment of the Section. Opinion seemed to be about evenly divided. The question was laid on the table.

Officers were elected as follows: Chairman: Wilmer L. Hall, assistant librarian in charge of cataloging, Virginia State Library, Richmond, Va.; secretary-treasurer: Winifred G. Barnstead, chief of Catalog Division, Toronto (Ont.) Public Library.

The second session was given over principally to the formal program.

The first paper on the program was "Classification, 1876-1926," by Ernest C. Richardson, consultant in bibliography, Library of Congress, and this was followed by one on "Cataloging, 1876-1926," by Charles Martel, chief of Catalog Division, Library of Congress. Dr. Richardson's paper will be given in a later issue.

Margaret Mann gave an informal talk on "The Future of Cataloging." She said in substance: We are no longer skeptical about the future of cataloging. The sixteen regional groups of catalogers that have been organized within the last few years show that we are going in the right direction. The standards realized in the Telford report, as finally submitted, show that we have won out and we have won out because we are organized. What are some of the present and future needs in cataloging? It seems to me that we need to work out more principles, for so few principles of cataloging have been worked out. We are deficient in the whys and wherefores. Most, but not all, of the technique on the author side has been worked out, thanks

to the A. L. A. code of catalog rules, and we have Mr. Merrill's "Manual for Classifiers," which the Committee on Classification hopes to have reprinted, but there is nothing on the subject side. Is not one of the needs of the future a code that will give us some basic rules for the assigning of subjects? We have the Library of Congress List of Subject Headings, and other lists, but any list of subject headings is merely a list of words unless you know the thought back of it. Invaluable as the Library of Congress cards are, there is a certain danger in their use. Because the subject headings and classification numbers are given on the cards, assistants are likely to use them as they exist without adapting them to the needs of the local catalog. Dr. Richardson and Mr. Martel have both emphasized the necessity of simplification because of the mass of material that is coming from the press all the time. The small library has very few problems that can not be settled, but the problems of the large libraries are complicated because of this mass of material. The suggestion has been made that the card catalog of the future may be greatly reduced in bulk by printing sections of it in book form and removing the corresponding cards from the catalog. Up to the present we have devoted our attention to the cataloging problems of the university and public libraries. Now we must work out the problems of the special libraries. We hear on every side that we need more catalogers. Do we need more catalogers or do we need to move the checkers already on the board? Could not one of the missions of the Regional Groups be that of bringing to the fore catalogers who have hitherto been kept in the background?

During the meeting Dorothy Hawkins had prepared a resolution expressing to Melvil Dewey the Section's appreciation of the value of his contribution to librarianship in the founding of the principle of relative classification. The resolution was adopted. A vote of thanks was extended to Miss Hyde, chairman, for her origination of the plan to assign D. C. numbers to L. C. cards. The meeting then adjourned.

Two Catalog Section exhibits were available during the conference. The first, an extensive one of a general nature, prepared under the direction of the Chairman, formed part of the A.L.A. exhibit at the Sesquicentennial Exposition in Philadelphia, the second, much smaller and prepared by the secretary, was displayed at Atlantic City.

A joint meeting of the Catalog Section and the Committee on Work with the Foreign Born was held on Thursday afternoon, Oct. 7, the purpose of the meeting being to formulate some scheme of co-operation between libraries in the cataloging of foreign books.

LINN R. BLANCHARD, *Secretary*.

Children's Librarians Section

CHILDREN'S libraries in European countries formed the general topic for discussion at the meeting of the Children's Librarians' Section held Monday afternoon, Oct. 4, with the chairman, Nina C. Brotherton, presiding. Library work in England, France, Belgium and the Scandinavian countries was represented.

The opening paper, prepared by Mr. W. C. Berwick Sayers, chief librarian, Public Libraries, Croyden, England, and read by Miss A. S. Cook of the Kent County Library, England, gave an interesting account of the growth of the children's library and its struggle against the tradition that libraries should operate at no cost. The paper is printed in full elsewhere in this number.

In a paper on library work with children in Norway, Hanna Wiig of Bergen stressed the temporary setback due to economic pressure since the war. This paper was presented and discussed by Eirie Andrews of the Brooklyn Public Library, who has had experience in Stockholm.

The work in France was admirably presented by Firmin Roz in a paper read by Mary Foster of Birmingham, Ala., and by M. Eugène Morel of the Bibliothèque Nationale, who was present.

The paper sent by M. Roz pointed out that it is to American influence that we owe the first development of children's libraries in France. When the American Committee for Devastated France organized its admirable village libraries at Blérancourt, Anizy-le-Château, Coucy-le-Château, Vic sur Aisne, and its large library at Soissons, a children's section was provided in each of these libraries. Their success was complete, and today the work is continued thru the activity of the French Committee on Modern Libraries which was organized specifically to carry on and develop the libraries founded by the American Committee.

Elsewhere, November 12th, 1924, the first library for children was installed at number 3 Rue Boutebrie, in a large room forming part of the school buildings of St. Séverin. This library is named "L'Heure Joyeuse" (Happy Hour). It was established thru the initiative of the Book Committee on Children's Libraries formed November 12, 1918, the day after the armistice, to aid in the educational reconstruction of the countries of the allies. Hardly was the Book Committee organized when, at the Child Welfare Conference held at Washington on May 3rd, 1919, it was appealed to by the representatives of the Child Welfare Commission of Belgium. The committee sent a commission to Brussels and its president, Mrs. John Lewis Griffiths, at once occupied herself with the realization of the project, in conjunction with a Brussels municipal commission. The children's library was inaugurated September 24th, 1920. Mrs. Griffiths then turned

her attention to the realization of a similar project at Paris, and this has been crowned with full success.

In the meantime, a library with a children's section had been created at Paris in the Belleville quarter, Rue Fessard, by the American Committee for Devastated France, working in accord with the municipality. The people in the neighborhood showed from the beginning enthusiastic interest in this library and particularly in the section for children.

At "L'Heure Joyeuse" of Rue Boutebrie, the success was so great from the beginning that from the twelfth of November (the date of the inauguration) to the end of the month 419 children were registered (277 boys and 142 girls).

In all these libraries story hours, according to American methods, have been instituted with the greatest success.

The Paris Library School, organized at 10 rue de l'Elysée under the auspices of the American Library Association, has specified in its program that among the different types of work for which it aims to prepare librarians are libraries for children or sections for children in general libraries.

The impulse was given. A competition was held in 1925 for the best example of juvenile literature, in order to encourage authors and publishers in this field. A prize of 5000 francs had been placed at the disposition of the French Committee on Modern Libraries by the treasurer, Mrs. Murray Dike, to be awarded to the author of the best book for children. The prize was awarded by the jury selected for the purpose to M. Jacques des Gachons, who had presented a collection of animal stories entitled "On Paws" ("Sur Pattes").

The French Committee on Modern Libraries as well as the Library School have found the warmest supporters in the National Office of Universities and in the most eminent officials of the large French libraries, in particular M. Roland-Marcel, general administrator of the Bibliothèque Nationale. The municipality of Paris and the Prefecture of the Seine have taken the most active interest in the progress of the work so happily inaugurated by the initiative of our American friends.

Mrs. John L. Griffiths, chairman of the Book Committee on Children's Libraries, brought greeting from the libraries in France and Belgium which were organized under her supervision.

Wilbur Macey Stone, who is not a librarian but collects early children's books as a hobby, talked to us about "Literature in Pinafores and Pantalettes," and supplemented his charming paper with a few examples of his valuable collection.

The culmination of the meeting was the awarding of the John Newbery Medal, for the most distinguished contribution to American literature for children, published during the year 1925. This award went to Arthur Bowie Chrisman, a young Virginian, for his book of Chinese stories, "Shen of the Sea." (See the *LIBRARY JOURNAL* for Oct. 15.)

The following officers for 1926-1927 were elected: Chairman, Louise P. Latimer, Public Library of the District of Columbia, Washington, D. C.; vice-chairman, Carrie E. Scott, Indianapolis (Ind.) Public Library; secretary, Ruth Anne Overman, St. Louis (Mo.) Public Library; treasurer, Helen F. Ingersoll, Denver (Colo.) Public Library.

RUTH ANNE OVERMAN, Secretary.

College and Reference Section

INTER-LIBRARY loans were discussed by the College and Reference Section. The interest in the subject was so great and the program so full that two sessions were held, the first on scheduled date (Monday, Oct. 4) and the second on Friday (Oct. 8). An international character was given to the meeting by the appearance on the program of two foreign delegates, Walter Powell, chief librarian of the Public Libraries of Birmingham, England, and Dr. A. G. Drachmann, assistant librarian of the Library of University of Copenhagen.

Malcolm O. Young of the Princeton University Library introduced the subject by giving a historical review of various discussions of such loans, going back curiously enough to the first number of the *LIBRARY JOURNAL* and to the first conference in 1876 when Samuel Swett Green proposed that libraries lend books to each other. With the development of the system came agitation for specialization in certain fields by particular libraries so that unnecessary and expensive duplication might be avoided. It was even advocated that there should be a central office for routing requests for loans, such office to be equipped with a Union Catalog of the holdings of the great libraries of the country, but this was found unnecessary because of the development of the bibliographic facilities and functions of the Library of Congress. As loans between libraries increased and were soon recognized as a standard form of service rendered by research libraries to their clientèle a standard practice was soon adopted. This naturally followed a statement made in 1912 by Herbert Putnam and William Coolidge Lane which set forth the rules for loans made to other libraries by the Library of Congress and the Harvard College Library respectively. By reason of their different organization and functions these libraries vary somewhat in their general practice, but essentially they are in agreement.

Mr. Young pleaded for a more liberal policy by our chief lending libraries both in regard to those who may request loans and as to books which are at present not subject to use without the library to which they belong. He stated that he saw no reason why graduate students should not be privileged to use the service, as such students should have before them the best material on their subject, while time, as well as money, often prevented their going to Washington, Cambridge or New York to use the resources of the great libraries located there. Nor did he see why rare books could not be loaned because the local demand for the use of the rarer items is always small. Periodicals and society proceedings are not lent by some libraries, and that constituted another handicap that should soon be removed before the greatest use could be made of the country's book resources. The one thing in recent years that has helped considerably is the photostat as it reproduces with absolute accuracy the material desired. However, where an entire volume must be consulted rather than a particular reference in the volume, photostatic reproduction is almost out of the question because of the great cost involved.

Great interest was shown in the paper by F. W. Ashley of the Library of Congress, since the national library has by far the greatest obligations of this sort and gets many more than are sent to any other American library. No library has advertised its resources more completely, as consultation of a depository set of L. C. cards enables one to learn instantly whether or no it contains the title wanted. For this very reason requests naturally gravitate to it which should normally go to a library close at hand which might be expected to contain the book. But the research worker is in urgent need of the volume and location of the title elsewhere would consume much of his valuable time, so the Library of Congress gets the request. Therefore, the greater need that our great national library adopt a policy that will enable it to answer the demands of Congress and the governmental bureaus at Washington, its natural constituency, and at the same time enable them best to meet the needs of research workers wherever they may be.

It is their regulation forbidding loan of books for the use of graduate students which really constitutes a basis for argument among university and reference librarians and one which Mr. Ashley termed "the question before the house." At the 1925 mid-winter meeting in Chicago one of the chief questions considered was "Can the Library of Congress be persuaded to approve inter-library loans for graduate students?"

In stating reasons for their inability to liberalize their practice he said: "In these three par-

ticals (the volume of the appeals, the public knowledge of what the Library of Congress possesses, the national feeling of proprietorship) we are conditioned in the settlement of our loan problems as no other institution is conditioned."

He advocated the establishment in Washington of a Central Office with a force of competent research assistants to aid libraries in locating the books they need to borrow for their clientele and to serve as general inter-library loan headquarters. In no other way can conditions be rectified or improved. He closed his paper by saying: "In some matters and on some occasions a keeper of priceless things must be adamant. We are so much the trustees for the scholars of tomorrow that we must not let the scholars of today wear out the work of the dead scholars of the past."

Asa Don Dickinson of the University of Pennsylvania set down certain principles which constitute a sort of golden rule. These are briefly: (1) No library should become a burden to any one lender; (2) certain libraries have claims and responsibilities which should govern their transactions with other libraries; (3) broadcasting one's inquiries is usually unwarrantable; (4) the lender should be able to take it for granted that requests are not made on frivolous grounds; (5) bound periodicals might well be loaned considering the small percentage of loss prevailing in the system; (6) use of the photostat when it best serves the purpose or in case of libraries not able to lend by reason of legal restrictions; (7) absolute reciprocity is not possible, so too much attention should not be paid to it; (8) as to time limits, the borrower should state for how long a period the loan is desired and the lender to assent to this as often and as far as he can.

The inter-library loan activities of other types of libraries were set forth in several papers. The large public library was represented by Gilbert O. Ward of Cleveland; the non-lending public reference library by Harry M. Lydenberg of New York; the state library by J. I. Wyer of the New York State Library; and the small public libraries by Sarah Askew of the New Jersey Free Public Library Commission. In each case the speaker described the practice of the particular library which he or she represented.

The two foreign representatives spoke of systems prevailing in the European countries. Walter Powell of Birmingham reviewed the development of the custom of lending books by one library to another. There has been no set code nor is the number of volumes so lent and borrowed large, but, nevertheless, this has been done for some years as a form of courtesy from one library to another. It has grown up in a natural way, but Mr. Powell predicted that

by reason of this very meeting which was attended by so many of his colleagues from Great Britain it would not be long before a standard code of practice would be worked out. In most part, British librarians have granted loans without any special legislation or rules bearing on the point, except that in some particular libraries the library board may have taken action providing for such service. The work of the Central Library for Students which loans books to students, to groups of students, or to libraries, and circulates 45,000 volumes per year, was mentioned. The whole question of inter-library loans in Great Britain is now being considered by the Committee on Public Libraries of the Board of Education, whose report is eagerly awaited.

Dr. Drachmann spoke of the Danish system of inter-library loans which is well organized and has been in successful operation for some time. Centered at the State Library at Aarhus with its 25 central libraries and with the co-operation of the Royal Library and University Library in Copenhagen, the system has become so generally used that over 12,000 volumes were loaned in this way during the year 1925. In order to locate a book one simply sends to the Central Library, and if the book is not at the Central Library the request is sent on to the State Library. If it is not located there, inquiry is sent direct to the State Library Commission which attempts by telephone to locate the title among the libraries of the capital. If located, information is given and the borrowing library sends direct to the library possessing the book. If the book is not in Denmark and need is sufficiently urgent a request to borrow the book from abroad is transmitted to the Royal Library or University Library. Such loans have been negotiated with most European countries, altho the Scandinavian countries and Germany are the nations from which books are usually borrowed. In the case of France, loans when made are negotiated thru diplomatic channels and therefore take a long time. In the case of Germany, one simply writes to the library for the book, and this is true with many other countries in Europe. Dr. Drachmann thinks international loans of growing importance and of great value to future scholarship for "When a book is found abroad only . . . it is usually better to send the book to the man at a minimum cost than to demand that the man must travel for days in order to read perhaps, a few pages of a book." In those few words Dr. Drachmann voiced the keynote of our meeting.

Officers elected for the year 1926-27 were: Chairman, Nicholas Van Patten, Queens University, Kingston, Ont.; secretary-treasurer, James A. McMillen, Washington University, St. Louis; and Donald B. Gilchrist, University of

Rochester, Rochester, N. Y., as the other member of the Executive Committee.

JAMES A. McMILLEN, *Secretary-Treasurer*.

Lending Section

PREFACED by a characteristic message from Christopher Morley and ending with an entertaining talk by John Farrar, editor of the *Bookman*, the meeting of the Lending Section had a literary flavor of its own. It met on Thursday morning, Oct. 7, with Margery Doud, of the St. Louis (Mo.) Public Library, presiding.

The first paper on the program was "The Spirit of '76" by Forrest B. Spaulding, consulting librarian of Gaylord Brothers, who has had active library experience in Newark, New York City, Des Moines and Lima, Peru. Pointing out the fact that details of administration, once demanding too much consideration, are now of lessening importance, Mr. Spaulding concluded that the spirit which animated the library pioneers of 1876 will continue to manifest itself, to the end that the younger generation, looking upon the library problem from the standpoint of the user as well as of the administrator, may most ably build upon the foundation of the past.

"I think with affection of your melodramatic scene," wrote Mr. Morley,—"the troops of high-minded librovores met to discuss their gorgeous and impossible problem of keeping pace with the world's output of books, their dangerous task of putting dynamite into circulation. Perhaps Mrs. Malaprop was right: you remember what she said in the first act of 'The Rivals': 'A circulating library in a town is an evergreen tree of diabolical knowledge.' . . .

"Ah, there is a seamy side to every silver lining. Think how many tortoises have perished to provide the American book public with spectacle rims. Think how many authors must stay at home and try to put their dreams in parallel lines so that the libraries can keep up their card indexes. And I have truly tried to express my admiration for librarians, for in a story that will appear presently in *Harper's Magazine* I have given my heroine the charming name of NYLA. That, you see, is a monogram for New York Library Association.

"So good luck and generous appropriations and plenty of readers with clean hands. In the heaven where good librarians go there will be more calls for John Donne and William Blake than for Warner Fabian. But there will never be any such heaven, so be happy while you can."

A delicate and artistic achievement was the paper on "International Understanding Through Poetry" by Alice R. Eaton, librarian of the Harrisburg (Pa.) Public Library. Quoting selections of great beauty Miss Eaton compared the poetry of nations to show that "human emotions are the same the world over and have

been, of all time." In further developing her theme, she said: "The real cause of war is the clash of men's ideals and desires. The animosity between races is born of misunderstanding. If the leaders of thought in all nations can establish a basis of mutual sympathy in the sharing of universal emotions, and the realization of the essential qualities of men, we will have a stronger foundation for international understanding than in any signal covenant or treaty."

One of the most thoroughly entertaining and appreciated talks of the conference was that on "The Life of a Book" by John Farrar, editor of the *Bookman* and editorial director of the George H. Doran Company. It is impossible to reproduce the enjoyable quality of Mr. Farrar's discourse, in which he described the many steps involved in the writing and publishing of a single book, and the consequent obligation upon librarians to prolong the lives of books of enduring worth, in a day devoted largely to "current" literature.

The following officers were elected: Chairman, Mary Black, librarian of Fort William, Ontario; vice-chairman, Grace B. Finney, chief, Circulation Department, Public Library of the District of Columbia; secretary, Louise Lamb, first assistant, Circulation Department, Minneapolis (Minn.) Public Library.

MARGERY DOUD, *Chairman*.

School Libraries Section

TWO sessions of the School Libraries Section were all too short for the discussions and papers which were given.

The first session, held on Thursday morning, was entirely taken up by the presentation of the work of supervision of school libraries in such states as have definite provision for such supervision. Presenting the work of the states in alphabetical order were: Indiana, Miss Della Northey; Michigan, Miss Lois Shortess; Minnesota, Miss Harriet Wood; New York, Miss Nell Unger; Ohio, Miss Estelle Slaven; Pennsylvania, Miss Adeline Zachert; Tennessee, Mr. Charles Stone; Wisconsin, Mr. M. H. Jackson.

At the end of this most helpful series of discussions, Miss Jones of Massachusetts outlined some of the efforts which were being made in her state toward supervision of school libraries. This entire series of papers will be published, it is hoped, at a later date for the mutual help of state departments carrying on the work at the present time and for the enlightenment and assistance of states which in the future seek to develop the work.

A group numbering about 250 comprised the Friday afternoon audience attending the second session. The theme of this session was that of "Problems of the Modern School Library." The platoon school library as seen in Detroit, where

the platoon school is an important element in that remarkable public school system, was graphically described by Marion Lovis, supervisor of school libraries in Detroit. Followed a delightful presentation of the Junior High School Library and its objectives by Evelyn Smith of Pittsburgh. Dr. Lucy Wilson, principal of the South Philadelphia High School for Girls, gave with clear analysis and fine enthusiasm an interpretation of the Dalton plan in connection with school library work, showing the growth of reading and the use of books which has followed the Dalton system of teaching and study in her school. Following this talk came a study of the present condition of the need for more assistance in the average school library and suggestions for the number of an adequate trained staff in a large and efficient city school library, by Agnes Cowing, of New York. Miss Jerusha Meigs, also of New York, presented the possibilities of student assistants in inadequately manned libraries, discussed the varieties of work which might be done by such assistants and suggested organization for their work. Both of these were helpful in the light of present conditions and constructive in the light of future needs.

Ruth Theobald's paper summarized an investigation by the school librarians of Cleveland, for possible aid in the lessening of the mortality of books in the school libraries of almost any vicinity. The widespread annual loss of books has made this subject of universal interest to school librarians of the country and the paper—which did not attempt to solve the problem—was full of useful suggestions.

In the business session which followed, committee reports were presented by Miss Eleanor Witmer, Denver, Colo.; Miss Kathleen Howard, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Miss Edith Cook, who read the report of the program committee in the absence of Miss Lucile Fargo, chairman of that committee, and Miss Adeline Zachert from the State of Pennsylvania.

Miss Annie S. Cutter of Cleveland was elected as the new director who will in turn serve as chairman of the section and Miss Sylvia Oakley was re-elected as secretary-treasurer. This election closed another session of a program which was stimulating and helpful in every number presented.

MILDRED H. POPE, *Chairman.*

Training Class Section

THE Training Class Section under the chairmanship of Marie Amna Newberry, with Flora B. Roberts acting as secretary in the absence of Louise Singley, met on Friday, October 8, with an attendance of over eighty, many of whom took part in the discussion of the papers presented. Miss Scott's paper on the place

of library work with children in the training class course, which is printed in full in this number of the *LIBRARY JOURNAL*, was discussed by Nina Brotherton of the Carnegie Library School of Pittsburgh, and Ethel Wright of the Toledo Public Library. Story telling, practice work, illustrations of children's books were some of the topics brought out in the discussion. Miss Roberts' "Plan for a Regional Apprentice Class," which will appear in full later, was discussed by Anna MacDonald of the State Library, Harrisburg, and Emma Baldwin of Denville, N. J. The question of training for the librarian of the small library both thru the regional apprentice class and the summer schools and the advantages and disadvantages of each were brought out from the theoretical side. Hope was expressed that the plan proposed by Miss Roberts may be tried out somewhere.

The Constitution which had been voted upon by mail was presented and adopted, and the meeting adjourned after the election of Carrie Scott of the Public Library, Indianapolis, Ind., as chairman, and Faith Allen, assistant to the supervisor of staff instruction of the Brooklyn Public Library, as secretary-treasurer.

MARIE AMNA NEWBERRY, *Chairman.*

Reports from the Trustees and Professional Training sections have not been received in time for inclusion in this number. They will be printed later.

Round Table Discussions

County Libraries

ACCOUNTS of county library work in Great Britain opened and closed the meeting of the County Libraries Round Table held Friday afternoon, October 9th, at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel. Adelene J. Pratt of the Burlington County Free Library, New Jersey, presided. Over 250 persons were in attendance.

A petition to the Council of the A. L. A. asking for recognition as a County Libraries Section, was presented for signatures. It was signed by thirty county librarians and active county library workers.

Miss A. S. Cooke of the Kent County Library, England, said that county libraries in England were started as a result of grants from the Carnegie United Kingdom Trust. The first was started in 1916 and, in the ten years since then, county libraries have been established in all except five counties in England, Scotland and Wales. In Ireland eleven counties have libraries. The first county library law came into existence in 1919. This law gave county councils power to become Library Authorities for the

county area, excluding any places which had, previous to 1919, already established their own libraries, and the county council had power to levy a rate for the maintenance of the library. County libraries in England are under the Education Authorities. England has no Library Commission; each county is a separate unit and may carry out its own policy without reference to anyone, except, out of courtesy, to the Carnegie Trustees. The Trustees, however, have no power over the counties, but help them considerably by the publication of an annual report showing what is being done all over the country. Thruout Britain the work of the local librarians is done voluntarily with the exception of the very large branches. Excellent work has been done by teachers and other volunteers and it is largely due to their enthusiasm that the movement has spread so rapidly and so successfully. There are still many large towns without libraries and to supply these from county headquarters needs a far greater appropriation than is now available. The usual policy is to ask the town to make an extra contribution to the county library rate. The populations which most counties supply are greater than those in America. For instance Durham has a population of 300,000, the West Riding of Yorkshire, 900,000, and Kent 600,000. Libraries already in existence are reluctant to co-operate with the county for fear of losing their individuality. The proposal put forward and adopted by some, is that the town shall agree to pay the county library tax in addition to its own library tax and in return receive collections of books with advice and help, if needed, from the county library. The town library invariably reports a great increase in the issues when working in conjunction with the county library.

The county libraries try, by every means possible, to keep in touch with the educational activities in their area. Great stress is laid by all county libraries on the need of catering for isolated individual students. Books are sent directly to the student instead of to the local branch, in order to save time. The Central Library for Students in London renders a great help in this work. The tendency in some of the county libraries in England is to cater more to the child than to the adult. This is because the school is generally the library centre and the children are such voracious readers that the fulfillment of their needs is apt to swamp those of the grown-up readers. In most counties a special grant is made by the Education Authorities for school libraries both in elementary and secondary schools. Where this grant is inadequate the county library supplements it by lending books. Books are sent out by rail, motor or carrier, the collection having been made up at headquarters either from lists sent in by the

local librarian or by headquarters with a view to the special needs of the locality. Four counties in England and one in Scotland now run a library book van. The chief lesson learned in America is the need for greater publicity. County Councils in Britain need to be impressed with the importance of libraries, their value to the people and the need for greater financial help to assist development. The average maintenance cost of county libraries is now £710 a year.

Mrs. A. H. Reeve, president of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers, outlined the need for library service which exists in rural communities and small villages. She stressed the fact that more books need to be written in words and form comprehensible to the average person. Knowledge needs to be popularized so that it can be assimilated by a nation of sixth-graders. She also made a plea for attractive children's books sufficiently low in price to admit their purchase by the average parent.

The next speaker was Judge Harold B. Wells of Bordentown, N. J., who gave a lively address. He put two questions to the county librarians: What are you going to do about the boys and girls? and Are you making the most of the tools at your command?

Discussions were opened by Miss Mary Barmby of the Alameda County Free Library, California, who developed the subject of budgets. Della F. Northey followed with a paper on county libraries and public schools. She said that the only hope for schools outside of city limits is service from the county library. Ruth Underwood, of the Harris County Library, Texas, talked on how to improve the service of the local library custodian. This paper is to be printed in a later number. Elinor E. Randall, Monmouth County Library, N. J., led a discussion of community co-operation with the county library, the question of who is to provide for the expense of running the library station in a community purely rural. Spirited discussion followed each of these papers.

Thomas Gorrie, chairman of the Library Committee of the United Kingdom Trust, spoke for a few minutes at the close of the meeting. He made the comment that in general, it would seem that in the United States, county libraries have reached an extraordinarily high stage of development in some places and none in others. In Britain county libraries have attained to a moderate development thruout.

MILDRED G. BROWN, *Secretary.*

Hospital Libraries

FROM Wilmington and Woonsocket, Washington and Maine, West Chester, Pennsylvania and Walter Reed's place of fame,

New Haven, Fort McPherson, proud Newport,
Waukesha,
Hamilton, Ontario, Boston and Omaha,
From Rochester and Gary, Brooklyn and De-
troit,
From Cleveland and Chicago and Towson, no,
not Beloit,
Freeport and Peoria and Nebraska's Varsity
town,
And even from Salt Lake City, the delegates
rained down.

Where there is such a rain of delegates, how many does it take to make a flood? Well, about seventy-five would have overflowed the banks allotted to this particular stream, and there were signs of that condition at the Round Table meeting of the Hospital Librarians and their friends on Thursday morning, October 7. We may, if we choose, regard ourselves as a three-headed monster—monster being used here in its purely medical sense, i.e. thing of wonder, unusual—the federal hospital libraries, those in private hospitals and those cared for by public libraries, and each third had its own attractive and able protagonist.

Elizabeth Reed, hospital librarian of the Warren library at Massachusetts General Hospital, spoke of the splendid book record at this justly famous hospital where for almost one hundred years the idea of book service has been followed. Massachusetts has a proud record in the standard of work set both at the General Hospital and at McLean, the mental hospital at Waverly.

From Bangor came Pauline E. Tartre and her chief, the librarian of the Public Library there. Miss Tartre's interest is particularly that of the child in the hospital, a subject which could easily consume a whole session. Here enters in the important point of continuation schools, story-telling hours, recreation times, etc. How is all this to be arranged? The librarian realizes the need and could usually supervise such activities, but has not the time herself for such protracted personal contact. When is there to be time for protracted thoughtful discussion of work with children? The hospital school teacher, where is she to come from? The ideal children's reading room, where is it to come from?

Another ideal to work for is a whole session devoted to discussion of case records, clinical reports on the reading done by mental cases. How is the librarian to record effects of reading so that the doctor may use the results of her observation? How can the private nurse help in this close observation? The eye-minded person takes to this form of occupational therapy and should be encouraged even tho the tangible results, such as nauseous lampshades and equivocal waste-baskets, are not produced.

Mrs. M. P. D. Miller from the well-known neuro-psychiatric hospital in North Little Rock, a Veterans Bureau charge, brought live interest, humor, and great understanding to the subject of work with mental cases. Here are the patients who may profit most from the right kind of reading, here is the greatest need of real understanding, not sentimental hand-holdings, and likewise here is the greatest difficulty of finding recruits.

If as doctors admit and aver, selected reading can be used as a great curative agent in a general hospital, that possibility of usefulness is increased infinitely in the special hospital for those with a distinct mental kink. Anecdotes, amusing and arresting, fell from Mrs. Miller's tongue as she presented the case of her kind of patient.

Many remembered her splendid chief, Dr. Bledsoe, who came, in spite of broken-down motors and thru mud and gumbo to address the Round Table at the Hot Springs convention. There must be more of this mental work, actual case reports of the effects of certain books with the observations of the librarian, the nurse and the interne. Each case is a law unto itself, but suggestions of books that have caught and held the attention of the roving and partly damaged mind will prove of value.

E. Kathleen Jones, the dear of hospital work, had been presiding up to this point, and now gave it over to the chairman of the committee. Somewhere and sometime a fitting tribute should be paid to such pioneers in this work as Kathleen Jones and Miriam Carey, whose courage, humor, good judgment, and tirelessness establish a movement and set a standard for the rest of us to follow.

A room full of men and women actively interested in how to begin or perfect their contribution, adequate library service, to the most modern and effective methods of restoration in the hospital, can keep going a very considerable amount of vital discussion. This was exactly what happened and such pivotal points as how to bring about a closer co-operation between the hospital and the public library; how much of the expense of the hospital library should the hospital bear; who pays for lost books; is the percentage of books in this department more or less than in the other departments of the library; how do you manage fines; what can be done in the matter of supplementary training for the hospital librarian; how can we work out case reports for mental cases; and others, drew forth stimulating differences of opinion. More topics were scheduled than satisfactorily could be handled. Another session was asked for, so much interest was shown and so good an attendance were there in spite of the nine other round table meetings scheduled at the same hour.

Reading courses for the hospital librarian were suggested, to be based on the courses as worked out at Walter Reed Hospital and at the University of Minnesota.

Not the least interesting part of the morning's meeting was the splendid efficiency of the stenographer whose verbatim report will be accessible to all who write to the Secretary of the Hospital Library Committee.

PERRIE JONES, *Chairman*.

Order and Book Selection

THE Order and Book Selection Round Table on Monday, October 4, with Miss Lois M. Jordan of the Minneapolis Public Library, presiding, opened with "Order Department Dogmatism, 1926," by Asa Don Dickinson of the University of Pennsylvania, a delightful and provocative paper based on experience in present day book buying for a large library.

"Buying Books for Public Libraries in Europe," by Carl L. Cannon of the New York Public Library, was of especial interest and value to those libraries which buy much abroad. An outgrowth of the discussion of this paper was the stressing of the necessity for the right of free importation for libraries.

Bessie Sargent Smith gave a very comprehensive account of budgeting the branch book fund as done in Cleveland, with some very excellent suggestions for procedure. There followed a spirited discussion of the duplicate pay collection used by many libraries to eke out the book budget and of the basis which determines the proportion of free and pay copies. In "Budgeting the Branch Juvenile Book Fund," Elizabeth Knapp of Detroit gave a proportion of from thirty to thirty-three and one-third per cent as a fair and reasonable allowance of the book fund to spend for children's books in many libraries. Seven questions were propounded as a basis for apportioning the fund for various branches and department of a large system: 1. What amount is needed to keep the collection at par? 2. What new work is the branch planning to do? 3. Are there new districts being opened? 4. What districts are changing? 5. Is the collection sufficient for reference work as well as circulation? 6. What is the most important thing to stress in each place? 7. Comparative accomplishment and service with appropriation of previous years. The discussion of the two papers on budgets brought out the fact that some libraries base their budget allowance to branches upon the discards each year, others upon circulation statistics, etc.

May Wood Wigginton's paper on how the order department can help the branches was read by Agnes Hall of Denver.

Anne Mulheron of Portland made some informal and stimulating remarks on the subject of

the popular reprints illustrated by scenes from the films. Especially inappropriate does this seem for the classics, where the illustrations used tend rather to emphasize the star than the story.

The impracticability of India paper for encyclopedias and other reference books for public libraries was discussed, with a general expression of opinion that libraries find such books very unsatisfactory.

Leta Adams of Cleveland was elected as chairman for the next year.

LOIS M. JORDAN, *Acting Chairman*.

Religious Book Round Table

APPROPRIATELY, the Religious Book Round Table was held in the Protestant Methodist Church, October 7, at 9:30 a.m. Dr. Frank G. Lewis, librarian of Crozer Theological Seminary, chairman, presided over the meeting, which was attended by about 50 persons. Dr. Lewis stated that the round table had originally been restricted to theological librarians, but that for the last two years effort had been made to make the programs of interest and help to those in general library work. In the absence of Elima A. Foster, head of Division of Philosophy and Religion, Cleveland (O.) Public Library, her excellent paper on "Promoting the Use of Religious Books in a Public Library" was read by the secretary.

"Nowadays, books on religion are on the non-fiction list of the best sellers and the call for them compares favorably with that for many fiction titles," Miss Foster stated in calling attention to the increased demand for religious books. "The yearly output of religious books by American publishers averages from eight per cent to ten per cent of the total number of books published, according to the summary given in the *Publishers' Weekly*. A few years ago a special effort at advertising was made during Religious Book Week, shortly before Easter, but now this advertising is spread thruout the year. The result of this policy was shown when Papini's 'Life of Christ' was published. It headed the list of non-fiction best sellers for two years, April 1923 to April 1925. Both Papini's book and Bruce Barton's 'Man Nobody Knows' were in the list of non-fiction best sellers for 1925, and Barton's book headed the list for the first five months of 1926. Here is sufficient proof that people buy religious books." Religious books are in demand in libraries as well as in bookstores, Miss Foster pointed out and cited as proof the *Bookman's* monthly score in which Papini's "Life of Christ" was listed for nearly two years and for seventeen months of that time was at the head, and where Barton's "Man Nobody Knows" has appeared since its publication a year ago, heading the list for five months.

A special place should be provided for the

readers where they may find close at hand religious books and periodicals, both current issues and bound volumes, reports, yearbooks, and similar material. Since 1913, when the Division System was adopted in Cleveland, yearly increases varying from three to fourteen per cent have been noted in the circulation figures of religious books. Miss Foster called attention to the fact that the field of religious reading is totally neglected in many public libraries, under plea of avoiding controversial literature, and that shelves are cumbered with out-of-date and unattractive volumes and many that are not appropriate for the general reader.

The most effective publicity for books in this field consists in making contacts with religious groups. "Letters to clergymen, to Sunday School superintendents, to presidents of various church societies, notes prepared for church bulletins, these are all simple and rewarding publicity methods," said Miss Foster. In Cleveland it is the custom to send a welcoming letter to every new clergyman who comes to the city, telling him of the library's resources and inviting him to call. It was suggested that in a small city a visit to each clergyman might well take the place of a letter. The librarian might be allowed to visit the ministers' club and there tell the assembled clergymen what resources the library possesses for their congregations and for the leaders of various sorts of religious work, and assure them that such scholarly and technical books for their own needs as were not to be found in the local library might be obtained thru the inter-library loan system.

Within the library, posted lists and book jackets, books displayed for Lent, a selection of books on some specific topic on a special rack, may be used to good advantage. Local events present opportunities to feature religious books. In the Cleveland Public Library, "stills" from the "Ten Commandments" with books on Old Testament history shelved below, were posted. Similarly, "stills" from "Ben-Hur" were posted with books on the life of Christ and the contemporary life of Rome and Palestine. This library has also found that the heavy advertising given certain books can be put to a wider use by posting the jacket of the much sought for book in the middle of a bulletin board and surrounding it by jackets of other books on the same theme.

Twice a year the *Open Shelf* prints a specially large number of religious book titles, and mails extra copies of these issues to those likely to be interested. Sometimes speakers at noonday religious meetings and at Sunday School Institutes and Institutes for Mission Study have announced that suitable Lenten reading could be obtained at the Public Library, and usually no objection has been made to the library's posting a notice

descriptive of its resources at such a meeting. It would be advantageous for a library assistant, with an exhibit of fifty books, to attend one of these meetings.

Following the paper, various additional suggestions of ways to reach the laymen were offered. Published catalogs of books in the local library sent to churches and Sunday school conferences had been found useful. Lists displayed at library and mailed to potential readers and to newspapers were also recommended.

Dr. Lewis distributed a list of fifty books recommended as outstanding recent publications. The list was edited by him from the recommendations of thirty-five librarians. The eighteen to twenty publishers of the various books, at the suggestion of the chairman, had given the books for an exhibit at headquarters, to be donated at the end of the conference to the public library at Atlantic City. The exhibit was well attended and about 450 lists distributed there and at the round table. Dr. Lewis gave a running commentary on the books on the list, especially noting those that would be suitable for questioning youth, and emphasized also the importance of having all of the leading versions of the Bible and the volumes of the "Wisdom of the East Series," or "The Mythology of All Races" in all public libraries.

Clara W. Herbert, assistant librarian, Public Library, Washington, D. C., was elected chairman, and Elima A. Foster, secretary for the ensuing year.

CLARA W. HERBERT, *Secretary*.

Small Libraries

IN calling to order the meeting of the Small Libraries Round Table on Tuesday, Oct. 5, the chairman, Margaret Jackson, of Chatham, New Jersey, drew attention to the fact that of the public libraries of America all but some four hundred were included in the group designated for this round table as small libraries. The smallest library to those having a circulation of 150,000 books a year were included. The group was organized at Swampscott, in 1921.

The problem before the meeting was: "What professional training is desirable for the librarians of smaller libraries and what is obtainable?" The speakers were invited at the request of Adam Strohm of Detroit, chairman of the Board of Education for Librarianship.

Constance Bement, in charge of Library Extension Work, Michigan State Library, entitled her ten-minute paper "The Library Worker Speaks," which is printed in full elsewhere in this issue.

On account of the full program, one session only being given, there was no immediate discussion of this paper. Charles E. Rush, librarian of the Indianapolis (Ind.) Public Library,

next spoke on "Preliminary Regional Training Classes." Mr. Rush referred to his paper on this subject given at the A. L. A. in 1925 (*Papers and Proceedings*, p. 326-327).

Herbert S. Hirshberg, librarian of the Ohio State Library, having in mind the larger libraries included in the group, those having a circulation up to 150,000, read a most serious paper demanding college training for the librarians of this type of library, which is also printed in full in this issue.

This ended the papers on the topic of "Professional Training." On account of lack of time Louise Jones, field secretary of the Division of Public Libraries, Massachusetts Department of Education, who was to have spoken on the small training classes of the libraries of Massachusetts, and Forrest B. Spaulding, consulting librarian of Gaylord Bros., who represented his firm in their correspondence courses, offered to speak individually to those desiring information rather than from the platform. The topic of "Opportunities for Training" was to have been presented by Sarah C. N. Bogle, assistant secretary of the A. L. A. but a temporary indisposition prevented her from being present. This important part of the program was therefore incomplete.

In the discussion that followed, Alice S. Tyler, director of the School of Library Science, Western Reserve University, spoke of the difficulty of persuading library school graduates with college education to take up or stay in the work of the small libraries. They wished the experience and contacts of library work in the cities. Miss Hobart, of the New Hampshire Commission, felt that the reason that remedies did not fit was because of differing conceptions of small libraries. The chair answered that the A. L. A. definition for this meeting was the smallest up to a circulation of 150,000, and that the remedies would have to be applied according to infant or adult.

Mary L. Titcomb, Washington County Free Library, Maryland, contended that of course all wanted the best for their own communities but many must acknowledge that it was impossible at present to get it. All we can do is to look forward to the good time coming, make the best of present facilities and hitch our wagon to a star. All agreed that Miss Titcomb's own wagon had long been so hitched and the meeting dissolved into three groups as follows. At the group for libraries with a circulation of less than 20,000 Emily Van Dorn Miller, editor of A. L. A. publications, presided. This meeting far overflowed in numbers the space allowed to it and was therefore delayed in starting. Alice Jordan, supervisor of work with children, Boston (Mass.) Public Library, spoke on "Books for

Boys and Girls in the Library." She said, in part:

"If you expect children to take care of the books, you must give them something worth respecting. It is not extravagance but wisdom to have the standards and classics, books that have proved to have a lasting appeal to each succeeding generation, in good editions, with clear type and worthy illustrations, even tho such editions cost twice as much as the smug little copies for supplementary school reading." Speaking of series books, of the twenty-one volumes of Ruth Fielding's doings, and the like, Miss Jordan said "If book selection is governed only by a demand for more books about familiar characters, more books that can be read without mental effort, more books of mediocre content or worse, the next generation will turn to the poorest type of adult fiction, instead of being the intelligent book lovers they might have become if the librarian had not escaped responsibility and taken the path of least resistance. Whatever concessions you make by way of supplying mystery tales for boys and girls will call for thoughtful consideration. Give your boys and girls freedom to explore among the best of the adult books of travel and true adventure, of books about the natural world, of records of great inventions and poetry and plays."

The paper of Mary Eastwood, head of Book Information Section, New York State Library, was read in her absence by Miss Jackson. A list accompanied the paper, entitled "As Readable as Fiction." In a paper of great literary charm she told of a library in a small town filled with a splendid collection of books which books, however, seemed not to have influenced the social life of the inhabitants. Examining librarian fashion, into the cause, she found that the books remained on the shelves, that there was no impetus on the part of the librarian to get them from the library into the homes. Believing in the printed as well as the spoken word she prepared this annotated book list which she hoped would grow and be rounded out by contributions from other booklovers.

Mrs. Belle Holcomb Johnson, of the Connecticut Public Library Committee, took the topic "Harmless, Necessary Romance" and named titles among the older and more recent fiction which fell under this caption. In particular, she named the "keepable" books of those writers whose work is popular but in general better discarded.

Jacqueline Overton, of the "Three Owls" children's library, Westbury, L. I., told of her work with boys and Miss Miller showed and explained how the *Booklist* is compiled.

The group for libraries with a circulation of

from 20,000 to 50,000 was presided over by Martha Wilson, librarian of the Lincoln Library, Springfield, Ill. Zaidee Brown, now of the H. W. Wilson Co., spoke on some library aids and their uses, dwelling on mechanical aids as time-savers to allow the librarian to help more with books, on aids to book selection, both as to choice and method of use, of pictures and clippings, and, at the request of the chairman, on the new high school list issued by the Wilson Company.

Elva L. Bascom of the Carnegie Library School, Pittsburgh, brought an exhibit of "In-expensive Series and Editions" and in her talk emphasized the service which the librarians of the smaller libraries may give in helping people of modest means to select for their own purchase or for gifts. Edna Phillips, in charge of work with foreigners in Massachusetts, spoke of the work of the small library in that direction.

The third group for libraries with a circulation of 50,000 to 150,000, was presided over by Carolyn Ulrich, chief of Periodical Division, New York Public Library.

Miss Ulrich urged that the librarian should get away from the traditional list and study more closely the special needs of her community. Trade and technical journals, house organs, are often of more use than a duplication of literary or home-making periodicals. She urged the placing of the *Readers' Guide* on the periodical rack for the public and for those libraries that cannot afford Ayer's "Newspaper Annual" suggested the use of the Crain "Market Data Book and Directory of Class, Trade, and Technical Periodicals."

Frank K. Walter, librarian of the University of Minnesota, spoke on technical magazines for the small library. Mr. Walter suggested some kind of an industrial survey of the small community before selection and the finding out, after the number of persons interested in the industry is roughly estimated, of the kind of interest they have.

The final topic was technical periodicals, discussed ably by Laura A. Eales of the Bridgeport (Conn.) Public Library.

Abridged from the report of

MARGARET JACKSON, *Chairman.*

University Library Extension Service

LUNCHEON at the Ambassador Hotel opened the first session of the University Library Extension Service Round Table on Tuesday, October fifth, with Dr. Louis R. Wilson, librarian of the University of North Carolina, presiding. The University Library Extension Service workers were honored in having as their guests at this time a number of leading college, university and public librarians, as well as repre-

sentatives from the Commission on the Library and Adult Education and the National University Extension Association. At the close of the luncheon, the meeting was adjourned to the Japanese Tea Room in the Ambassador Hotel where the following program was given:

1. "University Library Extension Service as a Factor in the Problem of Adult Education"—Edith Thomas, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

2. "The Essential Partnership of University Extension Teaching and the Library in the Field of Adult Education"—Professor W. H. Lighty, president of the National University Extension Association, University of Wisconsin.

The purpose of the program was to bring together for the consideration of their mutual interests, leading representatives from all groups of librarians particularly concerned with the problems of adult education.

In the first paper two points were stressed,—first, the need of closer organization and co-operation between university and college librarians and public librarians in the interest of adult education in general, but with particular reference to students in extension classes. To the end that this closer organization might be brought about, it was suggested that a board made up of the directors of extension in those institutions offering extra-mural courses, librarians from the same institutions, and representatives from the state library and public libraries, make up a board to work out a regional division of all library resources in a given state, and develop a routine for the effective administering of these resources.

The second point called attention to the unique service which University Library Extension Service can render, thru the fact that it is in a position to transmit to the farthest citizens of the state, the counsel of the specialists in the various fields of education who make up university faculties.

Professor Lighty's paper emphasized the dependence of university extension teaching on the co-operation of the library, and the facts that it is the public library which must serve as the focal center for reading in adult education work and that the university must ultimately reach the adult education student thru the local public libraries.

Mr. W. O. Carson, inspector of the public libraries of Ontario, sent by letter the points which he wished to bring before the meeting. "It is equally essential that the public librarian should understand university extension as far as library service is concerned, and that the university extension librarian should know something of public library service and the extent to which it can be made useful to extension

students. All who expect to be actively engaged even in a single phase of adult education should become acquainted with the whole field."

Much valuable comment bearing upon the subjects presented in the papers was offered in the discussion,—particularly by Luther L. Dickerson, executive secretary of the Commission on the Library and Adult Education; Matthew Dudgeon, librarian of the Public Library in Milwaukee, also a member of the Commission on the Library and Adult Education, and P. J. Fihe, reader's advisor in Adult Education of the Cincinnati Public Library.

A round table discussion of administrative problems in package library service was led by Almere Scott, secretary of the Department of Debating and Public Discussion of the University of Wisconsin. LeNoir Dimmitt, extension loan librarian of the University of Texas opened this program with a talk on staff organization. Miss Dimmitt illustrated her talk with charts showing the organization of the departments of library extension service in several universities. These charts which formed a part of the University Library Extension Service exhibit on display at the Ambassador Hotel during the Conference, showed interestingly, the staff organization, the types of service rendered, and the various groups of people served in the University Library Extension Service of the Universities of Texas, Indiana, Kansas, North Carolina, Wisconsin, and Michigan. A most helpful exchange of ideas and methods of handling special problems was brought out as a result of Miss Dimmitt's contribution.

EDITH THOMAS, *Acting Secretary.*

Work With the Foreign-Born

WORK in public libraries with the foreign-born reader was taken up at two meetings of the Atlantic City conference. The first meeting, held October 7, was an informal discussion by a group of thirty catalogers of foreign books and workers in circulation departments. A more formal meeting with a program centering around the recent books and magazines of importance to the library worker with the foreign-born followed the discussion group a day later and was attended by over two hundred persons.

Among the interesting questions raised in the discussion of problems involved in cataloging foreign books and the efforts made to get foreign purchases out into circulation quickly were: Can the smaller library pay a larger one to do the work of cataloging foreign books? Is co-operative cataloging possible? How much craftsmanship is really necessary in the cataloging of a popular foreign collection? Are cards for the main catalog an inevitable feature of foreign language work? Should not the catalogers'

directory be annotated to indicate specialists in the various languages?

News items on the current practice of libraries doing a considerable amount of work with foreign books brought out, among other points, that a traveling expert in the cataloging of foreign books is attached to the staff of the Detroit Public Library and has been borrowed by the Cleveland Public Library; that the Chicago Public Library is multigraphing its foreign cards and making up bulletins from the proofs of these cards, and has distributed extra cards to the Milwaukee Public Library. Toledo reported that it is now cataloging books in English for a neighboring suburban library and charging 40 cents a book for the service. The New York Public Library is soon to publish very full lists by language. The Committee on Cataloging will recommend at once changes in the transliteration rules for the Russian language, as a result of the Soviet Government's new rulings on the alphabet.

The group also went on record as asking the Committee on Cataloging to consider adopting a formal transliteration scheme for Armenian.

Recent publications in foreign languages or in translation which will be of importance to American public libraries where work with foreign-born is considerable were discussed by specialists in their fields. Of recent books in Romance languages, Mrs. Marguerite Neid Wetmore of Providence recommended "The Relic" for Portuguese, "Miraflor" for Spanish, and "On the Mandarin Road," by Roland Dorgeles, for the French. In Polish, Mrs. Eleanor Ledbetter pointed out German's "Miasta Mogej Matky," "City of My Mother," and "Iwonka," by Kaden, both departures from the earlier sex emphasis which characterized the work of these authors and of the whole school.

Fanny Goldstein, librarian of the West End Branch library, Boston, pointed out that the need for Yiddish books is not now so great in public libraries as it was ten years ago, both because of the restriction of immigration and because almost every congregation in the United States is now teaching Hebrew. Miss Goldstein stated that the need in public libraries with a Jewish clientele is now threefold; for Yiddish, for the older Ghetto type; for Hebrew, to meet the ever increasing call from the young; for English, books of distinct interest to Jewish readers. The present output of the latter is large—at least 100 volumes in 1926—and is characterized by great power in the actual writing. The period of yellow journalism is distinctly past.

A list of forty titles of such books in English appeared in the August, 1926, number of the *Jewish Forum*. On November 6 the *Publishers' Weekly* will print a similar list of forty titles, compiled and annotated by Miss Goldstein. Ex-

panded, the list will also appear in a November issue of the *Boston Evening Transcript*.

Miss Reque of the American-Scandinavian Foundation reported the following valuable activities of her association: Two buying lists for libraries, one in English and one in the Scandinavian languages; service to study clubs, covering a program for a winter's study of Scandinavian literature, lantern slides, lecture notes, a small collection of books, and reference service from the New York office; the publication of a series of Scandinavian classics in English book reviews; and annual surveys of the latest Scandinavian books, in the columns of the *Scandinavian-American Review*.

For the Czech-Slovak literature, Miss Sarka Hrbkova of the Foreign Language Information Service contrasted the pre-war public library demand for romantic or bombastic, nationalistic books with the changed, international reading standards of Europe, which are now being met by the Czechs in America. Miss Hrbkova distributed a catalog of low-priced, well-bound books in Czech, a finding list of books on Czech subjects and a résumé of the Czech situation in America.

Miss Hrbkova also outlined the current printed material concerned with the immigrant, not from the point of view of country of origin but in America. She listed these as the three magazines the *Interpreter*, published by the Foreign Language Information Service; the *New American*, of the League for American Citizenship; and the *Immigrant*, published by the National Council of Jewish Women. In addition there are the daily releases of the Foreign Language Information Service to 895 papers published in seventeen foreign languages here in the United States, and the information sent out by this service to the press in English.

Magazines particularly recommended to give to social workers for furnishing of the various groups are: *Poland*, with its quarterly reviews of new Polish books, *Il Carroccio*, the *Scandinavian American Review*, and *Foreign Affairs*. Orlando C. Davis of the Bridgeport Public Library spoke on the vast number of publications in easy English for the foreign-born, the vast majority of which he believed to be unsound. As satisfactory home reading for a beginner he recommended Winthrop Talbot's "Help Yourself" lessons, which he said were physically good and psychologically correct, an almost revolutionary book.

Mrs. Eleanor Ledbetter, chairman of the A. L. A. Committee on work with the foreign-born, presided at both meetings.

MARGERY QUIGLEY,
Acting Secretary.

Other Groups

The Bibliographical Society of America

THE Bibliographical Society of America held its annual meeting in the Trellis Room of the Ritz-Carlton, Tuesday, October 5th at 2:30 p.m.

The general subject of the program was "American Bibliography of the Past Century."

The first paper was by James Bennett Childs of the Library of Congress, "An Account of the Bibliography of Government Documents in the United States and other countries." In this Mr. Childs discussed the centralization of documents and made comment on the document "Catalogue," the document "Index" and the *Monthly Catalogue*. The Checklist was also discussed and the Poore and Ames catalogs. He made references to other national lists and also to all the State lists available. Mr. Childs extended his paper to include the national documents of Great Britain, and Italy.

The second paper was by Minnie E. Sears on "American Contributions to the Bibliography of English Literature." In her paper she mentioned and described the men who had done most in their work towards the bibliography of the subject, including Allibone, Northrup, Wells, Carlton Brown, Miss Hammond, Miss Bartlett and then took up the catalogs of certain important libraries, the programs of the Grolier Club exhibits, and the concordance-making of American scholars. She mentioned bibliographies now in progress.

Isadore G. Mudge of Columbia University gave a paper on "American Achievement in the Published Bibliographies of American Literature." She gave credit to the collectors and specialists for aiding in the achievements. She divided her material by subjects and mentioned with appreciation the work of the Cambridge History of American Literature. She next took up regional literature, gift books, individual authors and drama.

The last paper was by Augustus H. Shearer on "American Achievements in the Bibliography of United States History." He spoke of bibliographical development especially in the last fifty years in comparison with the previous period. This applied to the bibliographical aids and apparatus to be found in printed books and encyclopedias, also in the sales catalogs. Of the special contributions, he mentioned the national bibliographies, the local bibliographies, the printed catalogs, catalogs of special subjects and the work of the Bibliographical Society itself.

In the course of the papers some of the notable contributions were mentioned several times. The general topic of the meeting is to be

carried out further and the development will be completely represented. In the course of the meeting, Mr. R. R. Bowker referred to interesting bibliographical history. A vote was passed of sympathy to the Sabin family and another of appreciation to Charles Evans.

The treasurer's report indicated two hundred and fifty-two members, a balance in the revolving fund which is now being applied to the completion of Sabin's Dictionary, a small balance in the general fund and an additional amount in the incunabula fund. He reported nearly six hundred dollars collected for the furtherance of the Haebler Catalog of Incunabula.

The new officers elected are: President, H. H. B. Meyer, Library of Congress; vice-president, Theodore W. Koch, Northwestern University; secretary, A. H. Shearer, Grosvenor Library, Buffalo; treasurer, F. W. Faxon, Roslindale, Mass.; member of the Council A. S. Root, Oberlin, Ohio.

AUGUSTUS SHEARER, *Secretary*.

League of Library Commissions

TWENTY states were represented at the business session of the League of Library Commissions, held on Tuesday afternoon, October 5th.

Miss Julia W. Merrill, executive secretary of the A. L. A. Library Extension Committee, presented the provisional draft of the Rural Public Library Service Handbook, explaining the need which had been found for such a publication.

The president of the League, Milton J. Ferguson, announced that the Executive Board had voted to print the handbook in a large enough edition to allow for free distribution. Copies of the tentative draft were to be sent to members of the League for criticism and suggestions, with the request that they be returned as promptly as possible. Mr. Ferguson expressed the indebtedness of the League to Miss Merrill and stated that the League was working in co-operation with the Committee on Library Extension, and that Miss Merrill as executive secretary of the committee was also the servant of the League.

Miss Culver, secretary of the Louisiana Library Commission, then reported on the League's experiment in Louisiana, financed by the Carnegie Corporation. The first parish (county) library had been established and a second had been voted, a summer school had been conducted at the State University with an attendance of twenty-one students, of whom eight were university graduates, legislative service had been given to the legislature during the past summer, thru work with the budget committee, five thousand dollars have been appropriated to the Commission for the biennium, and a library law has been passed which emphasized the im-

portance of the library organized under the parish unit.

Ada Heminway Jones, representing the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, was called upon to explain the International Mind Alcove. Libraries may be placed on the mailing list upon application thru their state agency. About twelve books a year are sent. She urged that an effort be made to have the books more widely used.

Upon motion of Mr. Bailey (Indiana) seconded by Miss Rawson (Kentucky) it was voted that a committee be appointed to prepare an amendment to the constitution of the League to provide for membership on the part of other organizations interested in educational extension. The president appointed Mr. Bailey, Miss Rawson and Miss Price.

Mr. Lester reported for the A. L. A. Library Extension Committee that every effort is being made to carry out the policies of the League, that the necessity of state leadership had been emphasized, that the committee had attempted to point out ways in which the A. L. A. might work, and that the executive secretary referred to state agencies questions coming to headquarters. The future plans of the Committee are to continue its study, and to work for the extension of Library Service in the states. As executive assistant at American Library Association headquarters, Miss Merrill should be regarded as a representative of members of the League, to be called upon for advice and assistance.

Mrs. W. F. Marshall, state librarian of Mississippi, reported that a commission had been established by the last Legislature with no appropriation. Its greatest need is for information to present to the Legislature.

Miss Julia Robinson, Iowa, reported that a book car owned by the Iowa Library Association had been touring the state this summer as a means of demonstrating the county library plan. The car is owned by the Association and managed by its county library committee. Books—about four hundred volumes—and driver are provided by the Commission. Fourteen counties have so far been visited.

CLARA F. BALDWIN, *Secretary-Treasurer*.

CATALOGS RECEIVED

Chivers catalog of standard juvenile books for public librarians and schools. Brooklyn, N. Y.: Chivers Book Binding Co. 77p.

Maggs Brothers. Books on printers and printing bibliography, manuscripts, bookbinding. With an appendix on Beautiful books from famous modern presses. London: Maggs Bros. 1926. 286p. il. No. 478.

Americana, Books Maps Views. Italy, Florence: Otto Lange. Catalogue 51. 166p.

A Catalogue of Books in English Literature chiefly of the 17th and 18th Centuries. New York: Edgar H. Wells & Co., Inc., 1926. No. 17. 80p.



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THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

TWICE-A-MONTH

NOVEMBER 1, 1926

OUR visitors from abroad have finished their too brief journey to happy purpose and without mishaps, unless the rush endeavor to see libraries from Boston to Chicago and Washington in two weeks should have disastrous effect on the nerves or physique of some of our friends unaccustomed to American rapidity. They have been cordially appreciative of the many features of American libraries which give them suggestions for use on reaching home, and on the other hand we shall look to them for friendly and helpful criticism of our methods in their reports to home authorities. Criticisms and suggestions from their eyes and experience will be most welcome. It is the useful feature of international gatherings that both hosts and guests should be able to learn from each other. Germany can tell us for instance of longer experience in inter-library loans altho in that country the relations are chiefly amongst university libraries and in this respect less comprehensive than here. France thought of children's needs long before we did as the Société Franklin witnesses and England had them in mind in the sixties; nevertheless it has been left to America to develop the children's library, or, as our English friends suggest it should be called, the Junior Library to its full development which has emphasized itself to our visiting friends as one of the most important elements of library progress here. The county library system originating in Maryland and developed to the full in California has taken root in England and developed to an extraordinary extent, only a few shires lacking this system, in which the Carnegie United Kingdom Trust makes a special provision for juvenile readers. These are fair examples of "give and take" internationally in which library systems can be a service to each other and again we thank our friends from abroad for the welcome participation in our semicentenary conference.

IN the classification of the federal personnel at Washington, the serious mistake was made of placing the post of Librarian of Congress in the class where the maximum compensation is \$7500. The Council of the American Library Association has rightly asked for a revision of this action with a view to having the position placed in the class above, with a maximum salary of \$12,500. The change in classification would not immediately alter the salary, but would free the post from the restriction at pres-

ent imposed on it. For many years the members of the library profession have been entering protest against the injustice to the profession as such in rating the most important post in library service at scarcely more than half that which other librarians in the great public libraries receive, as well as the personal injustice to the present occupant of the post who, in his quarter century, has done a service to the whole nation which cannot be measured in money, but which in any well-organized corporation would mean a salary at least of \$25,000. This is beyond what the government can be expected to pay and those who do such service for the whole people feel a certain recompense in the opportunity for such service, but certainly the headship of this great national library should not be minimized by the classification which the post now has. It is to be hoped that the action of the Council may result in a step toward justice.

FEW who attend conventions realize, or trouble to think, how much labor has gone into their preparation and management and in provision for the comfort of the great gathering. The burden was especially great at the semi-centenary conference of the A. L. A. because it included over two thousand people and was held in two places with special transportation arrangements between. President Belden cannot be too much praised for his painstaking foresight during the year in passing upon arrangements and making decisions and for his quiet patience and thoro courtesy during the meeting, while Secretary Milam who is expected to be ubiquitous, omniscient, and attentive to every one of the thousands present came as near fulfilling those requirements as mortal could. The Program Committee are also entitled to high credit for the skill with which they fitted innumerable demands for time and space into the limited hours of five days.

A CHARACTERISTICALLY bright letter from Miss Hewins corrects an error as to the illness which kept her from her forty-ninth anniversary at A. L. A. conferences. This both amused and perhaps vexed her much as the "exaggerated report" of his death did Mark Twain. She celebrated her eightieth birthday during the conference week, rejoicing in many messages of congratulation, and since she has overcome bronchitis her doctor has permitted her to spend some time at the library on most days.



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Library Book Outlook

TRAVEL and Biography again claim the greatest number of new titles among the past fortnight's non-fiction books.

In a new volume in the Modern World series, *England*, by W. R. Inge (914.2, Scribner, \$3), the gloomy Dean of St. Paul's analyzes England's present situation and predicts something of the future. *The Road Round Ireland*, by Padraic Colum (914.15, Macmillan, \$4), is an interpretation of the nation thru descriptions of its county-life, its peasantry, and its contemporary writers and painters. *Lanterns, Junks, and Jade*, by Samuel Morrill (915.1, Stokes, \$2.50), present a fresh picture of China and Chinese life. *A Wayfarer in Switzerland*, by James F. Muirhead (914.94, Houghton-Mifflin, \$3), deals with the scenery, mountains, winter-sports, people, industries, and arts of the country. *A Wayfarer in Alsace*, by B. S. Townroe (914.4, Houghton-Mifflin, \$3), contrasts the Alsace of yesterday with the Alsace of today. *A Wayfarer on the Loire*, by Edgar I. Robson (914.4, Houghton-Mifflin, \$3), describes the provinces of Poitou, Aunis, and Saintonge, and the towns and castles along the River Loire.

A new Lincoln book, entitled *Abraham Lincoln, an Autobiography*, compiled by Nathaniel Wright Stephenson (Bobbs-Merrill, \$5), consists of the personal portions of Lincoln's letters, speeches, and conversations, arranged in connected form. *Whitman*, by Emory Holloway (Knopf, \$5), is a study of the poet's life and work, containing much new material. *John Wanamaker*, by Herbert Adams Gibbons (Harper, 2 v., \$10), is the life-story of this great American business-man. *My Life and Times*, by Jerome K. Jerome (Harper, \$4), is the life-story of the author of *Three Men in a Boat* and of *The Passing of the Third Floor Back*. *Personal Reminiscences of Auguste Rodin*, by Anthony M. Ludovici (Lippincott, \$3), is another intimate picture of the French sculptor at the height of his career, and also a critical estimate of his work and aims. *Exploring Life*, by Thomas A. Watson (Appleton, \$3.50), is the autobiography of a man who assisted in the invention and financing of the telephone and in other modern mechanical enterprises. *A Son of the Bowery*, by Charles Stelzle (Doran, \$3.50), is the life-story of an American who rose to prominence from New York's East Side. *You Can't Win*, by Jack Black (Macmillan, \$2), contains the confessions of a reformed crook who now holds a responsible position on a San Francisco periodical.

Two new books on political topics are: *Issues of European Statemanship*, by B. G. de Montgomery (327, Holt, \$3.50), a study of the prob-

lems of the modern state in present-day Europe, in the light of the treaties framed since the Great War; and *Congress, an Explanation*, by Robert Luce (353, Harvard Univ. Pr., \$1.50), a short account (154 pages), clearly and simply stated, of what Congress does, how it works, and what its responsibilities and limitations are.

The miscellaneous new non-fiction titles of library interest comprise the following:

Problems of Bird-Migration, by A. Landsborough Thomson (598, Houghton-Mifflin, \$5), a scientific study, setting forth the latest theories and discoveries in this field of nature-study; *Abbeys*, by M. R. James (726, Doubleday-Page, \$4), describing and illustrating all the abbeys of the West of England of which there are visible remains, and including a chapter on monastic life and buildings; *Castles*, by Sir Charles W. C. Oman (728, Doubleday-Page, \$4), doing somewhat the same thing for the old castles in that region; *In Quest of the Perfect Book*, by William Dana Orcutt (090, Little-Brown, \$5), which tells of the author's thirty-five years' quest for the perfect book, the interesting people he met in the course of it, and the typographic achievements he is credited with; *Three American Plays*, by Maxwell Anderson and Laurence Stallings (812, Harcourt-Brace, \$2.50), containing the texts of "What Price Glory?" "The First Flight," and "The Buccaneer"; *There Ought to Be a Law*—, by Don Herold (817, Dutton, \$1.25), being a new volume of characteristic humorous essays; *Novelists We Are Seven*, by Patrick Braybrooks (823, Lippincott, \$2.50), containing portraits of E. Temple Thurston, May Sinclair, Gilbert Frankau, Hugh Walpole, Ian Hay, W. B. Maxwell, and Rebecca West; *Words Ancient and Modern*, by Ernest Weekley (422, Dutton, \$2), discourses on the etymological and human-interest associations of a number of words selected because of their dramatic past; and *Opinions of a Cheerful Yankee*, by Irving Bacheller (171, Bobbs-Merrill, \$2.50), in which the author, with persuasive wit and conviction-producing laughter, discourses on humanity, and especially on that great issue of life—happiness.

The worth-while new fiction is both plenteous and varied. Arnold Bennett's *Lord Raingo* (Doran, \$2) is in the author's likable vein, portraying the career of an Englishman, born a commoner, and created a peer. Louis Bromfield's *Early Autumn* (Stokes, \$2) continues the cycle of American-life novels begun with "The Green Bay Tree" and continued in "Possession." Archibald Marshall's *The Allbrights* (Dodd-Mead, \$2), is another pleasant picture of English life, involving a number of love-affairs and an

eccentric aunt. Hugh Walpole's Harmer John (Doran, \$2), is a companion story to the author's earlier novel, "The Cathedral." Ernest Poole's *With Eastern Eyes* (Macmillan, \$2), presents an emotional crisis in a New England household as a Russian visitor sees it. Kathleen Norris's *Hildegarde* (Doubleday-Page, \$2), is the drama of a girl's fight to win happiness and security in spite of a great obstacle. Arthur Train's *Page Mr. Tutt* (Scribner, \$2), contains ten further episodes in the career of that well-known character. Grace Livingston Hill's *Coming Through the Rye* (Lippincott, \$2), is a typical Hill story, involving bootlegging, a slight mystery, and the usual love-affair. Floyd Dell's *An Old Man's Folly* (Doran, \$2), presents a hero who, having let life slip by him and realizing what he has missed, becomes an elderly matchmaker. John Buchan's *The Dancing Floor* (Houghton-Mifflin, \$2.50), E. Phillips Oppenheim's *Harvey Garrard's Crime* (Little-Brown, \$2), and Freeman Wills Crofts' *The Cheyne Mystery* (A. and C. Boni, \$2), are new mystery-stories by acknowledged masters.

LOUIS N. FEIPEL

Brooklyn Public Library.

The Calendar

- Dec. 9-10. At the Lincoln Hotel, Indianapolis. Indiana Library Association. President, Nellie M. Coats; Secretary, Ethel G. Baker, South Bend Public Library.
- Nov. 10. At the Women's Educational and Industrial Union. Boston Group of Catalogers and Classifiers. Dinner, business and reports from the A. L. A. Conference. C. C. Holt, Newton, (Mass.) Free Library, is secretary.

Library Opportunities

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Applications for hospital librarian must be on file at Washington, D. C., not later than November 27. The date for assembling of competitors will be stated on the admission cards sent applicants after the close of receipt of applications, and will be about ten days after that date.

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Competitors will be rated on mental tests, library economy, cataloging and classification, and one of the following languages: German, French, Italian, Spanish, Portuguese, Russian, Swedish, or Dano-Norwegian.

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Sonnenschein, W. S. *The best books; a reader's guide*; pt. 4; 3rd ed. Putnam. v. p. \$12.

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ACCIDENTS. See CHILD LABOR.

ADVERTISING

- Nixon, H. K. *An investigation of attention to advertisements; pub. for the School of Business.* Columbia. Bibl. footnotes. pap. \$1.

AFRICAN LANGUAGES

- Werne, Alice. *The language-families of Africa.* 2d ed. London: Paul, Trench, Trübner. 5p. bibl.

AGRICULTURE—CHINA

- Wagner, Wilhelm. *Die chinesische Landwirtschaft.* Berlin: P. Parcy. 8p. bibl.

AGRICULTURE—INDIA

- Mukerjee, Radhakamal. *The rural economy of India.* Longmans. Bibl. footnotes. \$2.50.

ALCOHOL. See LONGEVITY.

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BEARS

- Hallowell, A. I. *Bear ceremonialism in the northern hemisphere.* Philadelphia. 13p. bibl. (Thesis, Univ. of Pa., 1926).

BIBLE—NEW TESTAMENT

- Gibson, G. M. *A history of New Testament times.* Nashville, Tenn.: Cokesbury Press. Bibl. footnotes. \$1. (Training courses for leadership; Bible text ser.).

- Miller, M. S. *New Testament women and problems of today.* Methodist Book Concern. 2p. bibl. 5c. (Studies in Christian living).

BIBLE—STUDY AND TEACHING

- Seisenberger, Michael. *Practical handbook for the study of the Bible*; new rev. ed. New York: J. T. Wagner. 3p. bibl. \$2.

BIOLOGY

- Waggoner, H. D. *Modern biology.* Heath. Bibl. \$1.96.

BIRDS, FOSSIL

- Heilmann, Gerhard. *The origin of birds.* London: H. F. and G. Witherby. Bibl.

BLOOD

- Austin, J. H., and G. E. Cullen. *Hydrogen ion concentration of the blood in health and diseases.* Williams and Wilkins. 9p. bibl.

CAMPAIGN FUNDS

- Pollock, J. K., jr. *Party campaign funds.* Knopf. Bibl. footnotes. \$3. (Borzo pol. sci. texts).

CATHOLIC CHURCH—HISTORY

- Church historians; foreword and index by Peter Guilday. Kenedy. Bibl. \$2.75.

- Wright, Cuthbert. *The story of the Catholic church.* Boni. Bibl. \$2.50.

CHILD LABOR

- Gray, E. S. *Industrial accidents to employed minors in Wisconsin, Massachusetts, and New Jersey.* U. S. Children's Bureau. 9p. bibl. pap. 15c. (Pub. no. 152).

CHILDREN'S LITERATURE. See under GENERAL, above.

CHRISTIANITY

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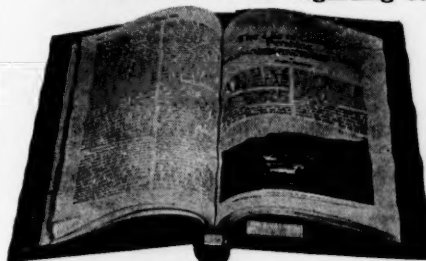
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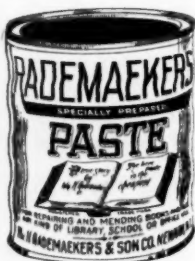


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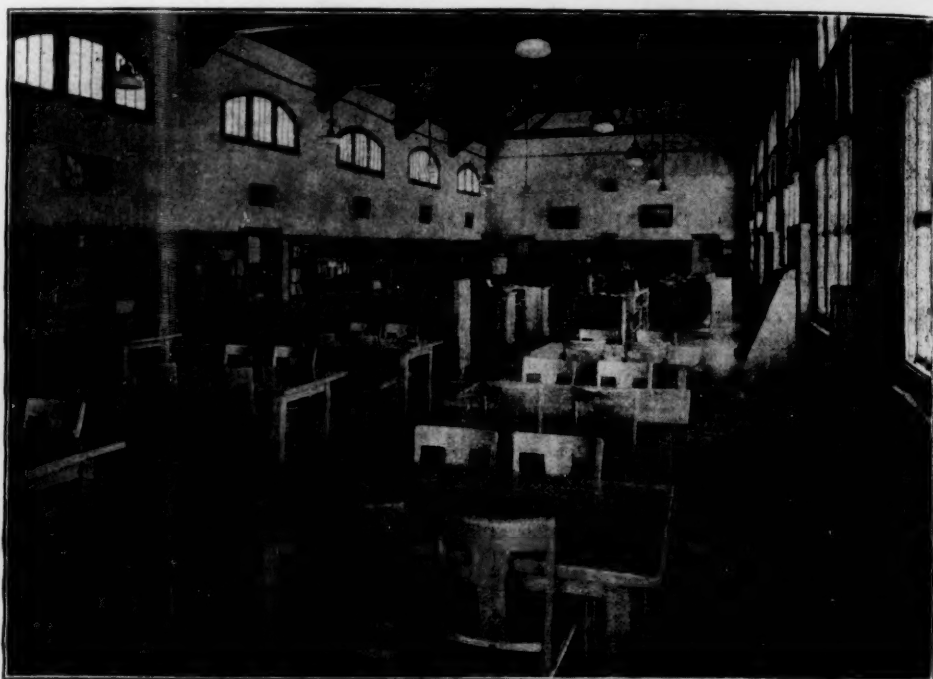


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